SPORTS, B1

CLOSE CALL AT CAPITAL CLASSIC

Hornets lose to Long Beach State in championship game



FEATURES, B9

CRAZY FOR YOU

Campus musical gets rave reviews from The State Hornet's Josh Cadji



THE STATE HORNET

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est. 1949 | California State University, Sacramento | March 24, 2004 | Issue 9 | Volume 56 No. 23 | One Copy Free

ASI elections loom, mudslinging begins

Campaigning begins Friday, elections run April 28-29

MEGAN LLOYD-JONES
State Hornet

The time to elect new representatives of Associated Students, Inc. is drawing closer as the official election packet was made available to students.

The ASI election packet was released March 15 and will be accessible until Friday. The packet outlines the rules and requirements for candidates running for director and executive office.

The 2004 General Elections will be held on April 27-28 and candidates will have exactly a month to campaign before Election Day, as the official opening of campaigning begins Monday.

One major alteration to the election code is that students are now unable to pull funds together and campaign under one logo.

The spending limits of candidates for board of director and executive positions have also changed. The maximum spending for executive office, including dona-

PACKETS: Page A3



Vice President of Finance and former member of Sigma Phi Epsilon Luke Wood had information released without his consent.

VP's financial info released to editors

KELLY OWEN
State Hornet

It's not easy to bury the hatchet, and campus politics are no exception.

In what has been deemed a political tactic to discredit him, Associated Students, Inc. Vice President of Finance Luke Wood was "saddened" by the unauthorized release of his financial records.

The editors of The State Hornet received an anonymous letter on March 12 containing private financial information about Wood. The copies of Wood's financial records were all marked with the Sigma Phi Epsilon insignia.

Wood was a member of the fraternity until May 2002.

The anonymous writer identified himself only as "a concerned CSUS student … concerned that the leadership of ASI is having trouble managing themselves in an appropriate fashion."

This "concerned student's" actions would have been illegal under the Privacy Act of 1974 if Wood's full social security number had not been blackened out on the documents.

The act states, "No agency shall disclose any record of which is contained in a system of records may by any means of communications to any person, or to anoth-

WOOD: Page A3

Survey says ... Students favor $110 RWEC fee

MELISSA DAHL
State Hornet

Seventy-one percent of Sacramento State students support a fee increase that will contribute to the funding of the Wellness Recreation Events Center, according to a recent survey.

Sent to 26,000 students in February, the survey assessed students' opinions of Sac State's need for upgraded facilities. The 2,600 valid responses determined the details of the RWEC project.

At the Associated Students, Inc. election on April 27-28, students will vote whether to support a $110 fee increase that will supply a vital portion of the funding for the project.

INSIDE

Columnist Jason Okamoto throws his support behind RWEC proposal

See Page A7

Leslie Davis, the director of the University Union, said that the fate of the RWEC project depends entirely on that student vote.

"We have no way to build it without the student fee," Davis said. "It's the students' choice."

If students vote the RWEC into

SURVEY: Page A5



KATHY BUSTILLO/STATE HORNET

Ronnie Martinez, left, and Doug McKay, right, work on glass bricks in the Financial Aid Office construction site on Monday.

Financial Aid Office undergoes face-lift

ANDY OPSAHL
State Hornet

Students who enjoy the relaxed sit-down customer service arrangement in the Career Center will soon receive the same experience in the Financial Aid Office's reception area.

The remodeling of the Financial Aid Office began on Feb. 9 as part of a university-wide goal to make campus services more inviting. Linda Clemons, director of the office of financial aid, said the office's reception area has been designed to function like that of the Career Center.

Robin Lovering, manager of project design and development for Facilities Management, said that before construction began, the Financial Aid Office's reception facilities consisted of two service windows that looked sterile and unwelcoming.

"Hopefully everyone can be accommodated in this room," Lovering said.

Clemons said that before, students had to check in at one of the windows across from the Student Financial Services Center; then wait in the hallway to be called into the office by a counselor.

Clemons said she wants an area where students can sit down without being in the hallway. She said she thinks making the reception

REMODELING: Page A5

SAME OLD SONG



CUITLAHUAC SANCHEZ/STATE HORNET

Capital Public Radio disc jockey Bruce Callison speaks during a public announcement at CPR's new station on Sacramento State's campus.

Capital Public Radio remains off-limits to students

EDUARDO JUAREZ
State Hornet

Capital Public Radio has relocated to the Sacramento State campus, but their microphones will remain silent for students.

It has been over a year since construction began on the southeast corner of the Sac State campus to house Capital Public Radio. What had originally begun as a student-run radio station a quarter-century ago is now a multimillion-dollar "non-profit" business.

"We are not here to program for the students," said Michael H. Lazar, Capital Public Radio president and general manager.

Although students will not have direct access to the broadcast studios, Lazar mentioned the various non-paid internships that are offered at Capital Public Radio. These include human resources, finance, engineering, public relations, marketing, journalism and fund raising.

Lazar said that, traditionally, Sac State students have not taken advantage of the internship opportunities offered at Capital Public Radio.

"We have more students from other colleges and high schools than Sac State students," Lazar said. "We are criticized for not having enough (Sac State) students but we cannot force them to come in."

KSSU Student Manager Rafael Chavez feels that Sacramento State President Alexander Gonzalez needs to address the issue of students not being allowed access to the CPR broadcast studios.

Chavez acknowledges that CPR was originally hired by the university to operate the station and was not obliged to deal with students.

"Internships don't do anything for you if you're never heard on the airways," Chavez said.

What is today Capital Public Radio originally began as a student-operated radio station at Sac State in 1970 under the call letters KERS.

The station received $9,700 a year in funding through the Sac State Communications Department and operated out of the theater arts building.

In the late 1970's, student access to the KERS broadcast studio was restricted. The station would eventually turn into what is today KXPR, now managed by Capital Public Radio.

KSSU, which operates out of the Student

RADIO: Page A5

POLICE LOG

SACRAMENTO STATE'S CAMPUS POLICE

COMPILED BY CHRIS JANSEN
State Hornet

Friday, March 12

Assault/Battery – DESMOND HALL – A man was attacked by two people, resulting in a bloody nose and mouth. The victim reported smelling alcohol on the breath of both assailants. University Police arrived, but the two men were gone.

Incident – PARKING STRUCTURE – An exit sign that was hanging hazardously low was fixed by facilities maintenance.

Disturbance – RESIDENCE HALL PARKING – A resident adviser called University Police and asked for help in breaking up a large party where people were drinking.

Saturday, March 13

Trespass – RESIDENCE HALL PARKING – University Police asked people to leave the pool area because it is not yet open.

Incident – RESIDENCE HALL PARKING – University Police checked on a loud explosion near Sierra Hall that was thought to be fireworks. Upon arrival, everything checked out OK.

Sunday, March 14

Service – DRAPER HALL – A woman who had drank too much was vomiting and was later taken to the hospital by ambulance.

Incident – EUREKA HALL – University Police asked three men who were skateboarding in the area to leave.

Monday, March 15

Incident – SANTA CLARA HALL – University Police spoke with a vendor who was taking pictures of student ID cards.

Incident – RIVERSIDE HALL – University Police were called regarding a bush that was on fire. The fire was put out before the fire department arrived.

Service – AMADOR HALL – A woman fainted and hit her head causing her mouth to bleed. She also chipped her tooth and was later taken to the hospital by an ambulance.

Tuesday, March 16

Service – STATE UNIVERSITY DRIVE – A man feeling dizzy and numb called University Police asking for a ride to his car. The man refused the officer's offer to call an ambulance or be taken to the Student Health Center. The man said he would get medical help off campus after he got his car.

Burglary Tools – PARKING LOT 10 – A man called University Police saying that he was following a man who had been searching the bed of his pick-up truck. University Police were able to locate the suspect and he was arrested for possession of burglary tools and taken to Sacramento County Jail.

Service – UNIVERSITY UNION – A man was having asthma-related breathing problems. University Police were called, and the man was later taken to the hospital by ambulance.

Incident – PARKING LOT 2 – Animal control took custody of a "dangerous" dog in the lot.

Wednesday, March 17

Disturbance – DESMOND HALL – University Police were called regarding several residents who were reportedly drunk and being obnoxious. When officers arrived they found that the residents were in a room and not causing any trouble.

Vandalism – DESMOND HALL – A call was made regarding people who were vandalizing and ripping posters off the hallways. However, they were gone when University Police arrived.

Thursday, March 18

Suspicious Circumstances – RESIDENCE HALL PARKING – A report was made of a subject who was sitting in his vehicle watching people as they walked by. The vehicle was gone when University Police arrived.

Suspicious Circumstances – FOLEY HALL – A report was made of two subjects selling televisions out of their green Toyota Corolla. The subjects were contacted and advised to leave the area.

10 Sac State alumni to receive Distinguished Service Awards

MELISSA DAHL
State Hornet

Sacramento State's outstanding alumni will be awarded on Thursday with the university's highest honor.

At the Distinguished Service Awards Dinner, Sac State President Alexander Gonzalez and Alumni Association President Jim Thyken will present each of the 10 recipients with a plaque, Director of Alumni Affairs Craig Perez said.

The Alumni Association board members chose the recipients for a variety of reasons, such as achieving exceptional success in the workplace, earning positive recognition for Sac State and being significantly active in the community.

"You know it when you see it," Perez said, adding that the recipients' diverse qualifications are so unique that they cannot be compared.

Retired CIA agent Craig Johnson is among those being honored at the ceremony. Because of the secrecy shrouding his occupation, the Alumni Association only recently learned of his success.

"For a long time, he was under the radar," said Linda Scott, coordinator of alumni association events.

Scott said that the alumni association did not know about Johnson's government work until Johnson invited his fellow Sac State graduates to his retirement ceremony.

During his career with the CIA, Johnson served as a staff officer, Special Agent-In-Charge and a mission manager.

As a mission manager, Johnson worked to provide countermeasures after the domestic terrorism incident at Oklahoma City's John E. Murray Building in Oklahoma City.

During the recent Afghanistan and Iraq conflicts, Johnson helped to provide the U.S. Armed Forces with tactical and strategic intelligence.

Johnson, who retired in 2003, received the CIA Career Intelligence Award for his exceptional career.

City councilmember Robbie Waters will also be honored at the ceremony. Waters began his career with the Sacramento Police Department in 1958, and assisted in the arrest of the person who would later be convicted for the attempted assassination of President Ford.

Waters was elected to the Sacramento City Council in 1994, and was reelected in 1998 and 2002.

Teacher Mary Jane Young will be honored for her work with bilingual and migrant elementary students. This year, Young was named San Bernardino County Teacher of the Year, and competed for the California Teacher of the Year award.

Entrepreneur Ken Macias will also be honored at the ceremony. Macias started an auditing company that is now one of the largest in the United States.

Former football coach and athletic director Ray Clemons will receive the Honorary Alumnus Award in recognition for his role as a "founding father" of Sac State, Perez said. This award is presented to a person who did not attend Sac State but has provided the university with exceptional support and service.

In his 24 years of service at Sac State, Clemons served as head football coach, alumni associations director and athletic director. He retired in 1984.

Clemons was a "big picture person," who enjoyed seeing students become involved in activities at Sac State.

"Most students are not just there to study, but to do other activities," Clemons said.

Although he boasts one of the best coaching records for football at Sac State, he always considered other activities such as the cheerleaders and the band as part of the football team, Perez said.

"He was a family man, and that showed with his involvement with the football team," Scott said.

Convinced that Sac State should take advantage of the nearby river, Clemons was involved with the conception and construction of Sac State's Aquatic Center in 1981. He established the location, and later helped establish Sac State's rowing team, Perez said.

"He is one of those individuals (who) made Sac State what it has become today," Perez said. "He will definitely be remembered as someone who made this place different."

Other recipients of the Distinguished Service Awards are Sacramento artist Fred Dalkey, executive vice president with Cardinal Health Robin Martial; Kayla Gillan, lawyer and activist against corporate scandals; Sacramento public relations firm owner David Mering; Melba Mosher, retired teacher and fund-raiser for ranch workers; Scott Modell, creator of programs for people with disabilities; and Pam Saltenberger, executive director of Girl Scouts of Tierra del Oro.

The emcees for the ceremony will be retired news anchor Stan Atkinson and news anchor Edie Lambert.

The awards banquet will be held at 7:30 p.m., Thursday at the Alumni Center.

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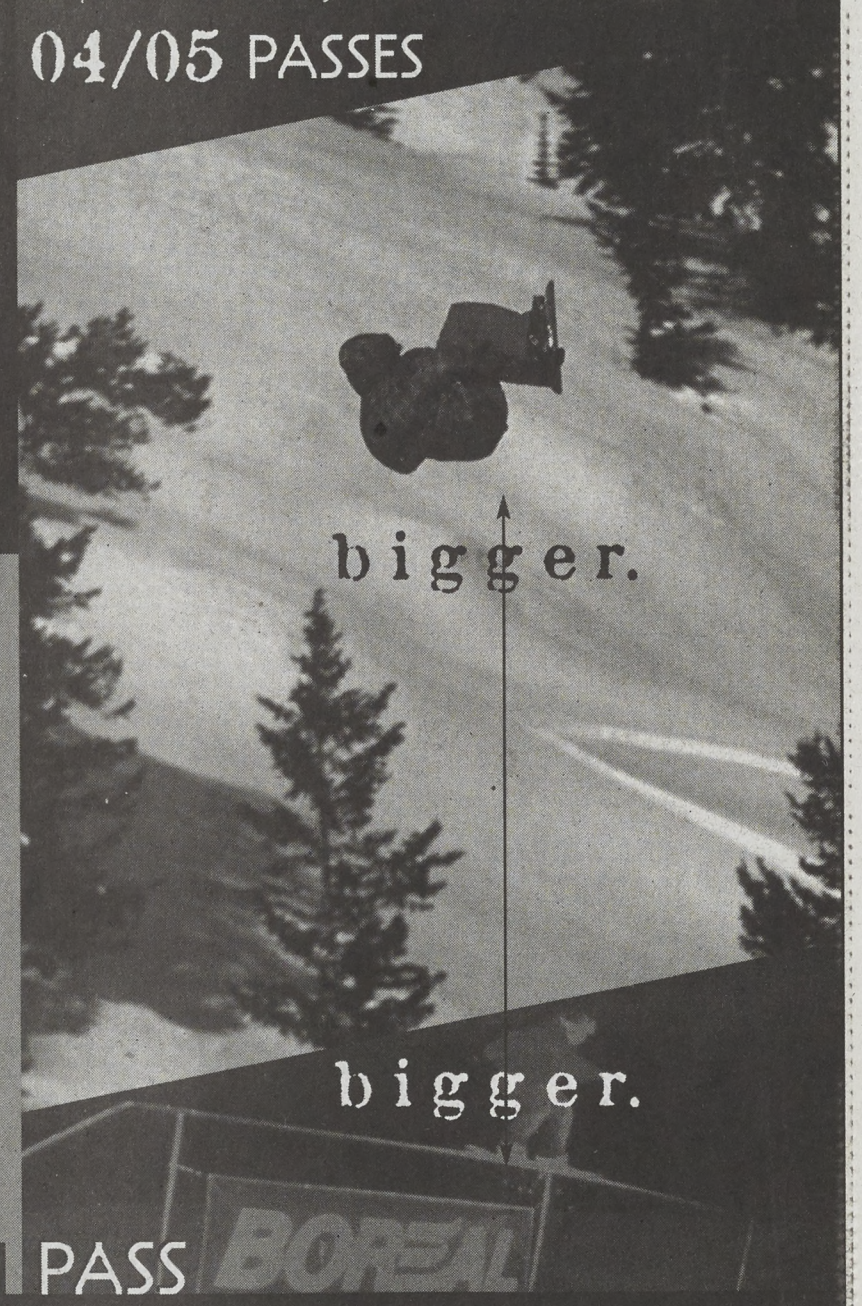
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PACKETS: Many guidelines for candidates

Continued from A1

tions, is $100 per individual campaigning. Directors are only able to spend $50 on their individual campaign including donations.

"I think it is very important for students to be aware of the guidelines that are there," ASI President Peter Ucovich said. "For example, posting and publicity guidelines, the guidelines as far as campaigning spending limits. If they have any questions about that I would encourage them to come by my office."

Candidates may not commence campaigning until their eligibility is determined and the candidate has attended a workshop.

ASI requires candidates for all positions to have a grade point average of 2.5 or higher and maintain this throughout the period of their service.

The election packed states, "All student office holders must be matriculated at CSUS maintaining a minimum overall on campus grade point average … must be in good standing, and must not be on probation of any kind."

"I do feel that it is really important for students to have a bigger say, but honestly the bureaucratic complications make it difficult."

Basma Marmosh
Sacramento State student

Board of directors must have completed six units, excluding summer and intersession, in the semester prior to the semester in which the election is held. They also must be enrolled in seven units or four graduate level units in the semester of the election and each semester they serve.

President, executive vice president, vice president of finance and vice president of university affairs must have completed 45 overall semester units recognized by Sacramento State, 14 of those must be earned at Sac State in the year preceding the election. Six units must have been earned in the semester prior to the election semester, excluding summer and intersession. Candidates for president and vice president positions must meet the same requirements as the board of directors.

Ucovich welcomed students to run for office.

"I would encourage every student who wants to get involved to get involved," Ucovich said. "Every student has the opportunity to win elected office."

David Diaz, a business senior, said he was unaware of the availability of the election packet and said that ASI needs to find better ways of publicizing the elections.

"I think the election process is good, but ASI fails to market and promote themselves," Diaz said. "This affects student participation."

Other students were discouraged from running for office as they were not familiar with the process.

ONLINE
ASI lawyer offers advice about whether new slate legislation is constitutional.
www.statehornet.com

"I know students would get involved if they knew the process," said Michelle Schultz, an early childhood development graduate student.

International communications senior Basma Marmosh said she would be interested in being a part of student government, but she was put off by how difficult it was to get things achieved.

"I do feel that it is really important for students to have a bigger say, but honestly the bureaucratic complications make it difficult," Marmosh said. "If you want your voice heard you have to go through so many people and you are not guaranteed anything."

Ucovich said that students may not be aware that the elections are coming up as the official campaign period has not started and once it does the ASI office of Governmental Affairs makes the elections very visible.

"The office of governmental affairs does have budgeted specific (money) … for the promotions of the elections as a non partisan group within ASI just simply to promote debates, forums, voter pamphlets and the dates and the polling locations on campus," Ucovich said.

The election packet is currently being promoted on the ASI Web site and through student activities, Ucovich said. The packet lists all the available positions, including president, executive vice president, vice president of finance and vice president of university affairs.

"Hopefully a candidate would already have some involvement in ASI before they run for office … hopefully someone interested in any position … has some idea in involving in that organization before they run for high level positions," Ucovich said.

WOOD: Information was accessed via Omega Financial Inc. Web site

Continued from A1

er agency, except pursuant to written request by, or with prior written consent of, the individual to whom the record pertains."

Wood said he did not give written consent to anyone to release his financial records to The State Hornet, and The State Hornet did not request such information.

Rules regarding the use and release of financial records from Sigma Phi Epsilon Headquarters were unavailable before press time.

Current president of Sigma Phi Epsilon, Andrew Singletary, had knowledge of the releasing of Wood's records before it occurred.

"I am aware that (Wood's) financial records were sent to The Hornet," Singletary said. "I was aware before they were sent, but that is all I want to say."

Current ASI President Peter Ucovich, who is also a member of the Sigma Phi Epsilon, declined to comment when asked if he knew who sent the anonymous letter.

The financial records attached to the letter were a computer printout from the Web site of Omega Financial Inc.

Omega is a third party collection agency fraternities can use to collect dues from members. Sigma Phi Epsilon uses Omega's services.

Josh McGee, vice president of finance for Sigma Phi Epsilon, said that one must be a member of the fraternity with a working password for the site to access such records through Omega's Web site. This allows them to view their financial standing with the fraternity, as well as that of other members. This is used as an incentive to stay out of debt, McGee said.

McGee's name appeared on the documents received by The State Hornet. His name would appear on any records accessed by a Sigma Phi Epsilon member through Omega because he is the vice president of finance, McGee said.

McGee said he does not know who is responsible for disclosing Wood's records to The Hornet.

"My guess is that it could be someone who is upset with (Wood's) debt and wants to see him pay it," McGee said.

Singletary said Wood was expelled from the fraternity for outstanding debt.

"After 30 days of unpaid dues, (members) receive a warning," Singletary explained. "After 60 days (members) receive a suspension. After 90 days, (members) are expelled."

Wood now belongs to the fraternity Epsilon Sigma Ro.

According to the Interfraternity Council Constitution, a student is not allowed to join another Greek organization while still owing money to another.

ASI elections are next month, but Wood has yet to officially announce whether or not he plans to run for office for the 2004-05 academic year.

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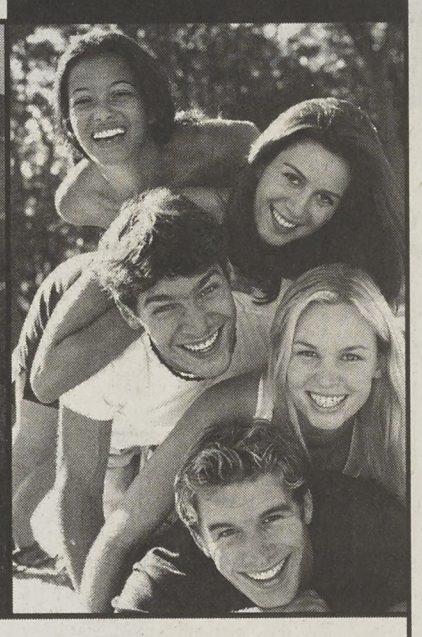
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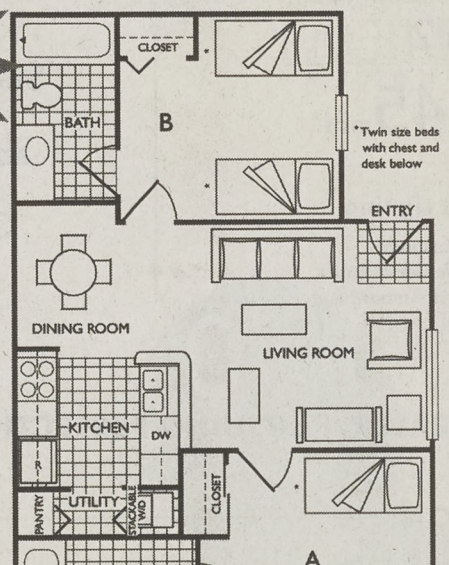
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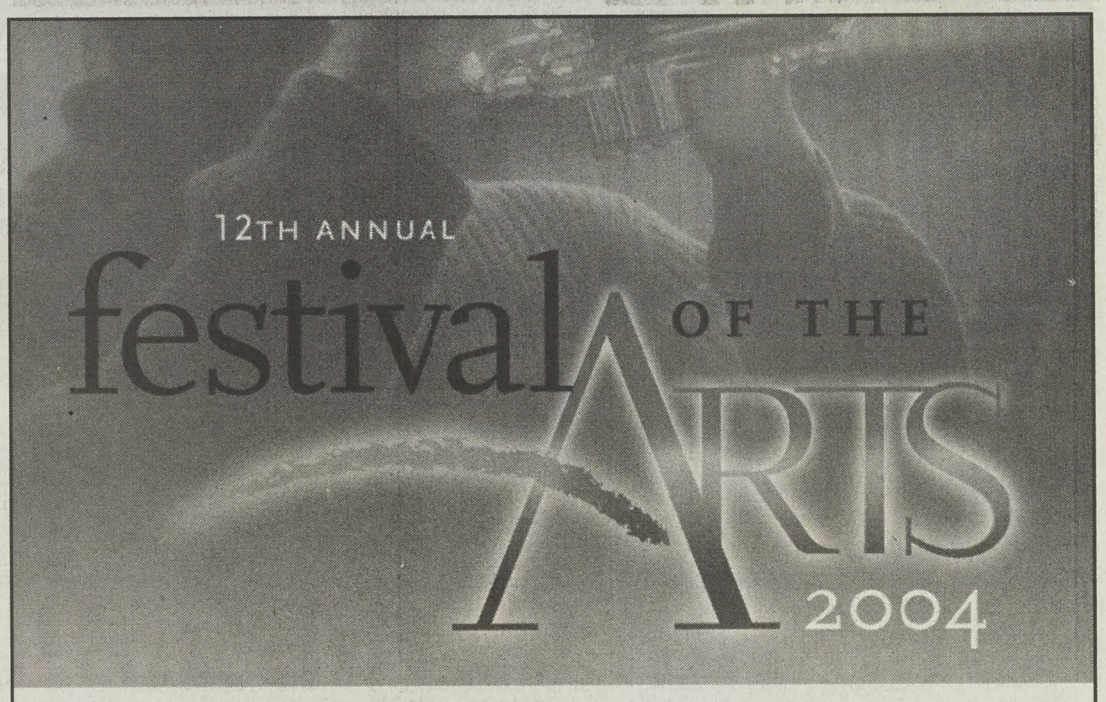


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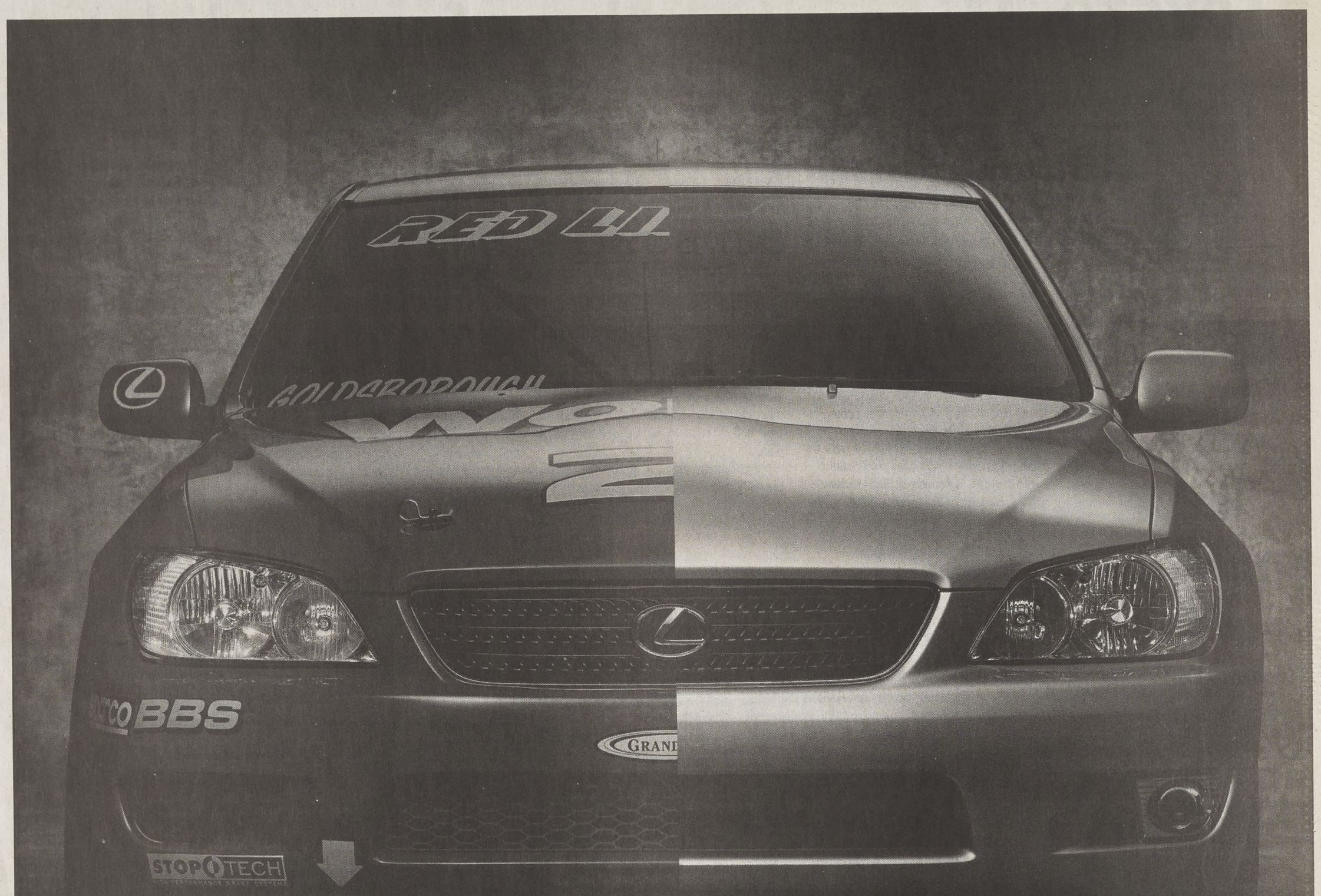
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SURVEY: Students won't pay until construction begins

Continued from A1

existence next month, a $10 fee increase per semester will begin fall 2004.

ASI President Peter Ucovich said that President Alexander Gonzalez has committed $37 million to the project. Gonzalez plans to fund-raise $25 million and lease the facility in order to obtain the remaining money.

Students will begin paying the full $110 fee increase per academic period when the $25 million has been fund-raised and construction has started.

"Students only start paying when we start building," Davis said.

Construction is tentatively set to begin during the 2006-07 academic year.

The University Union and the Student Health Center have committed $2 million to initiate the first phase of the project.

At an emergency board meeting on March 18, the ASI Board of Directors voted to support the RWEC project. Ucovich said that ASI is committed to educating the campus about the positive aspects that the RWEC could bring Sac State.

"This (facility) is a one of a kind in the nation," Ucovich said. "Bettering campus life will result in increasing graduation and retention rates."

Davis said that the 236,000 square foot facility, which will be located to the north of the Hornet Stadium, consists of three interrelated components – recreation, wellness and events.

The recreation center will include a 300-seat movie theater. Davis said that students will receive free admission to the theater.

Some additional features of the recreation center include a bowling center, a rock-climbing wall, an indoor pool, racquetball courts and three basketball courts.

Nicole Sandlin, a graduate assistant who is in involved with Recreational Sports' student activities, said that Sac State's current facilities allow only five of Recreational Sports 5-on-5 basketball games to be played simultaneously.

"The courts are the biggest thing, because with them we can run nine courts," Sandlin said.

Davis said that the social aspect of the recreation center is just as important as the fitness aspect.

"Having the facility here will encourage people to get more involved," Davis said. "It's an opportunity for social interaction."

The wellness center will be equipped with an emergency service center, allowing injured students to be treated on campus rather than at a hospital.

Other components of the wellness center include physical therapy, dental and optical care and therapeutic massages. Additionally, nursing students are expected to be able to intern at the wellness center.

The events center will consist of an 8,000-seat arena that will host graduations, concerts and guest speakers. Additionally, the wellness center will include a 7,000 square foot auxiliary gym.

Students will use the RWEC for free, and alumni, faculty and staff will be able to buy a pass to use the facility.

Sandlin said that the recreation, wellness and events aspects of the facility would benefit all students.

"This facility will benefit students, whatever situation they are in," Sandlin said. "It's not just for the athletes; it's really for everyone."

REMODELING: Project expected to be completed on April 5

Continued from A1

area a room instead of just another one of the many windows in Lassen Hall will make finding the Financial Aid Office less confusing for students.

"We'd also like to get more comfortable seating for the reception room," Clemons said.

She said the office would use the current furniture for now, but hopes to purchase a new set when they can afford it.

Lovering said the Office of Admissions and Records wants to do a similar remodel, but can't right now because of a tight budget.

The Financial Aid Office is operating in its normal space on the first floor of Lassen Hall, while the workers remodel the reception area. The receptionists are using the two service windows next to the admissions and records windows until construction is complete.

Lovering said Landmark Construction is performing the remodeling, as well as several other projects on campus. He said they were given a yearlong contract with the university worth roughly $1 million in construction.

Lovering said the Financial Aid Oiffce remodel is costing the university approximately $73,000. He said his original estimate for the project was $45,000 because he had done a larger, but similar remodel in the past for $65,000.

"We're not real good at estimates I guess," Lovering said.

He added that the reason it's difficult to estimate the cost of remodels in Lassen Hall is that the building at one time was the Sacramento State Library. Around 20 years ago its function was converted to student services. He said the building has had several internal alterations since then and provides many construction obstacles that are difficult to foresee.

Lovering said Landmark Construction's contract requires them to finish the project by April 9, but said he thinks they'll be done on April 5. He said if they go past April 9, a process called "liquidated damages" begins where the construction company pays the university $350 for each day it goes past its deadline.

Lovering said that small jobs like this one normally finish on time and that liquidated damages usually come into play on larger projects. However, he said the reality of those projects is that the company negotiates with the university by agreeing to not charge for extra services in exchange for a reduction or elimination of liquidated damages. He added that the construction company typically comes out better on the deal.

"The government always loses," Lovering said.

Nursing junior Erika Gomez said she has used the Financial Aid Office in the past and welcomes the opportunity to wait in an enclosed area.

"It's nice that I don't have to be seen by other people," Gomez said.

Gomez said she appreciates the Financial Aid Office's efforts, but thinks the $73,000 could have been better utilized to directly help students.

"Maybe they could distribute that money to financial aid students to buy textbooks," Gomez said.

Clemons said the funding for the remodel came from the Student Affairs budget and was earmarked for campus improvement only.

RADIO: 'Internships don't do anything for you if you're never heard on the airways'

Continued from A1

Union at 1580 AM, became Sac State's answer to a student radio station after KERS turned into KXPR. The university does not need an FCC license for KSSU to operate because it only operates at three watts, and can only be heard within the vicinity of the Sac State campus. According to the College Music Journal, KSSU is the second smallest college radio station, power-wise, in the United States.

However, professor of communication studies and former department chairwoman Barbara O'Connor said, Capital Public Radio's FCC license is not owned by Sac State but by the California State University Board of Trustees.

O'Connor said, the university hired a man named to Stu Wilber to operate the student-run radio station and it was his decision to fire the students working at the station.

In March 1977, the Sacramento Bee published an article concerning a homosexual program being aired on KERS on Wednesday nights. Tim Farley, the KERS student manager, received numerous complaints about the program, according to the Bee's article.

In May 1977, former Sac State President James G. Bond responded to several written complaints demanding the homosexual program be removed from KERS broadcasting. Bond wrote, "While both you and I may find certain subject distasteful, me must, as a matter of law conscience protect the rights of individuals to voice their beliefs."

"I don't think the university made the decision (to remove students from KERS)," O'Connor said.

O'Connor was the department chair of communication studies during the KERS transition into KXPR.

O'Connor recalls various complaints from the community about several of the programs being aired on KERS. There were also African American and Chicano programs that sparked controversy.

O'Connor also said radio stations need a certain number of full-time staff members to eventually become qualified to carry National Public Radio broadcasting.

Also, in order for Sac State to receive grants from National Public Radio and federal funding from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, the community needed to be pleased by the programs being aired. O'Connor believes that students were removed from KERS over money.

"I don't see why KXPR could not have a vibrant student internship program with the communication and business departments," O'Connor said. "Students say they get better internships at other commercial stations."

Approximately 70 student volunteers are currently involved in KSSU.

Capital Public Radio's budget for the current fiscal year is $4.8 million.

"Capital Public Radio is making a lot of money for the university and students are not getting a piece of the pie," Chavez said.

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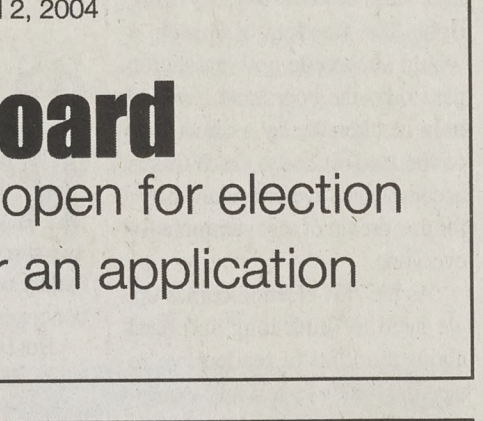
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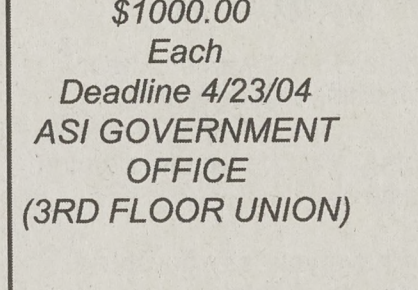
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EDITORIAL

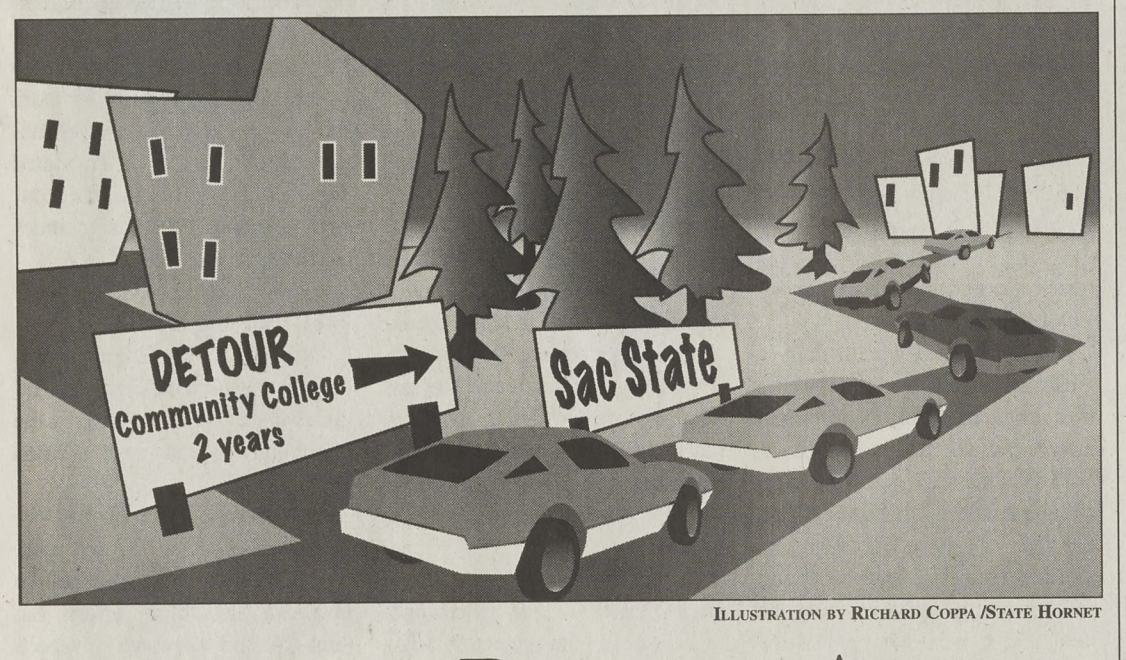


ILLUSTRATION BY RICHARD COPPA /STATE HORNET

WARNING: DETOUR AHEAD

Earmarking California's community colleges as a sort of extended prep school for would-be university students could be a great idea. The plan could help the financially stretched University of California and California State University systems breathe a bit easier, and could ensure that more university students are well-prepared for the level of instruction they should be receiving at this level. It could also allow the universities to rebuild and restructure after the last few years of financial chaos, and enable the CSU Master Plan to survive.

But questions persist as to what happens to the financially stretched community college system. Will student fees at that level double again the next two years? What about the possible political considerations – how will the university treat recruited student-athletes? They surely will not be shipped to Sacramento City College like a nonathlete with a 3.2 GPA. Will special accommodations be made so they do not risk being sent to Sierra College for two years?

There will be even harder questions to answer, as well: What role will diversity play in the redirection game? Will quotas be in effect for straight-to-university freshmen? Will this penalize the qualified but already well-represented students the way the UC's affirmative action policy did?

The state will have to make extra efforts to ensure smooth transitions between community colleges and the universities. But since Gray Davis and Arnold Schwarzenegger have already decimated outreach programs, what guarantee is in place to ensure easy transition for these redirected students?

In the past, California's community colleges have helped epitomize the California dream – everyone can make it here. If ignored, the community college system will fall apart and the dream will be over. It will become a bunch of second-rate adult schools that do nothing for the future of the world.

Community college officials have estimated that 175,000 students have dropped out after last year's fee hike from $11 to $18 per unit. Now the fees are likely to rise again to $26 per unit. How many students will leave at that point?

Redirecting underclassmen to community colleges needs to be done responsibly. If it must farm out education, the state should guarantee that the affected students have enough resources to make sure they are fully prepared when they move up to the universities. For all of its potential promise, this plan provides more questions than answers.

COMMENTARY

Is Atkins diet too good to be true?



CHRISTINA BIRDSALL

Atkins says you can have a big, juicy cheeseburger, only without the bun. You can have a bean burrito with guacamole and sour cream, but forget about the tortilla. Are you starting to see the catch?

. . . . . .

Atkins, Atkins, Atkins. He's everywhere. He's in the grocery store or at Jack In The Box. He's on TV and in magazines. He's even at Barnes and Noble. He's been seen around since the 1970s, so why all of the new hype?

On the surface, Dr. Robert Atkins' diet appears to be the answer to the age-old question of how to stay thin, but underneath lies a hellish life without carbs. You know, carbs – carbohydrates, that part of the meal that makes everything better. Breads, cereals, potatoes and fruits all have carbs, and the list goes on. Even as I sit here eating my bowl of Cheerios, I wonder why in the world anyone would want to deny themselves these foods?

I've had friends who tried the diet. Sure they lost some weight, but at the expense of their sanity. Feeling faint and grouchy were two complaints, but there was also a more important one – never being satisfied. A constant bad taste lingered in their mouths. Now, I'm no dietician or doctor, but I would say this sounds like a bad idea. Surely a little time with Mari Winsor and her Pilates workout could have done the trick, but without the near starvation.

I won't lie. It's easy to get lured in by Atkins and his evil plan. He teases a thinner waist and slender frame, all while eating the fatty foods we know and love. That's right – it's OK to have fat. But following a diet that embraces fat? You think I'm joking, right?

My mother used to tell me this old cliché that if something sounds too good to be true, it probably is. Atkins says you can have a big, juicy cheeseburger, only without the bun. You can have a bean burrito with guacamole and sour cream, but forget about the tortilla. You can even have eggs and bacon in the morning, if you leave out the toast, of course. Are you starting to see the catch?

But wait – did you really think that Atkins and corporate America would really lose out on all of the money people won't spend since they can't buy carbs? Don't underestimate the power of a dollar.

There is a whole Atkins line of products from a low-carb multivitamin to low-carb cereals, breakfast bars, bread, bagels, chips and pancake mix. Lean Cuisine, Lipton, Skippy, Wish-Bone and Ragu all have a new line of foods called "Carb Options." I even found Tia Rosa tortillas that boast only nine grams of carbohydrates per serving.

No-carb alternatives are littered around campus. At Gordito Burrito, you can get a burrito with no tortilla. Burger King offers either a burger or chicken breast, but without a bun and ketchup. Off-campus, Carl's Jr. promotes its "Low-Carb Six Dollar Burger." And Subway added low-carb wraps to its menu. With all of the marketing and advertising, it's hard to say no.

Papa Murphy's offers its own wonder pizza, with half the carbs and calories of a regular pizza. My roommate and I decided to check it out. The thin pizza crust reminded me of a wafer, and the tomato sauce was omitted. I thought lycopene was good for you. Needless to say, it took an entire pizza to fill us up. So the "half-the-bad-stuff" gimmick ended up blowing up in our faces, because we ate twice as much.

Spring break is 1½ weeks away, and I know most people are thinking about looking good in a bathing suit. But instead of buying into all of the trickery, try something else: Go on a walk or hit the gym. Try indulging in what you like, but with moderation. As I said before, I'm no doctor; I'm just a college student who has gained a little insight through trial-and-error. My advice strictly comes from good old common sense.

I wonder what Dr. Atkins would say to that?

Contact Christina Birdsall at forum@statehornet.com

GUEST COMMENTARY

Students deserve Bill of Rights

BRANDON KLINE
Special to The State Hornet

As I sat in the Associated Students, Inc. meeting two weeks ago listening to the dialogue about abolishing slates, and instead allowing students to pick their favorite colors over their favorite issues, I chuckled silently to myself – student government at Sacramento State had come to this.

So my thoughts wandered away from the meeting where I was wasting my time, and I started thinking. In the early 1960s, California Gov. Edmund "Pat" Brown dreamed of a university system that would be open to anyone. Under Brown's stewardship, this dream was realized and the California State University system was created.

Our student body was incorporated in the spirit of that dream, and at one time embodied it. But now we are at a perilous juncture: Our student government has been left adrift, floating further and further away from its intended course. Recent legislation from our elected leaders takes away our most basic rights, and poses the greatest threat to the student body since ASI's creation.

It's not too late, however. There is still time to take back our dream and our campus. This journey starts with the creation of a Students' Bill of Rights. In this document, the basic rights this country was founded on would finally be granted to students. Prior administrations have always respected an "invisible line" that government cannot cross, but in light of recent events, it's clear we need a wall.

The Students' Bill of Rights would be a barrier to injustice in three ways: It would formally define rights like freedom of speech, it would supercede any legislation passed by the board and it would only be alterable by a direct vote of the student body. Once this is accomplished we can again strive for that dream of a government for everyone.

As the ASI election comes up, we need to think long and hard about the kind of leaders we're electing. Ask yourself a few questions: Can we do better? Are we CSUS students better off now than we were a year ago? What's it going to be in 2004-05: more tomfoolery under the ASI Big Top, or real change for the great silent majority? The choice is yours.

Brandon Kline is a junior government major and is the president of Sacramento State's InterFraternity Council. He can be reached at bkline@energy.state.ca.us

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For more information, contact S.T. VanAirsdale, Forum editor, at forum@statehornet.com or (916)278-7300

READER RESPONSE

Air conditioners not as inefficient as one may think

Re "Campus commuters battle record-high gas prices," March 17: It was stated in this story that you can conserve fuel by not running your air conditioners on hot days.

But before you decide to tough it out during Sacramento's infamous 90 and 100 degree summer days, there is something to keep in mind: Not running your air conditioning can actually increase fuel consumption while driving at higher speeds (above about 45 to 50 mph).

This happens because not running your air conditioning invariably means that you are going to be driving with open windows, and driving with open windows spoils a vehicle's aerodynamics. This is especially true with passenger cars (as opposed to more boxy and, therefore, less aerodynamic trucks and SUVs).

Also, a car's air conditioning requires less power and operates less (i.e. cycles on and off more) at higher vehicle speeds because of the increased efficiency of the condenser.

So if you do have air conditioning, at least use it while driving at higher speeds. Also, keep in mind that a cooler, more comfortable driver is a safer driver.

Matthew Storm
Student
Mechanical Engineering

To submit a letter to The State Hornet, contact forum@statehornet.com

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RWEC proposal fits in Sac State's future



JASON OKAMOTO

The last two times students voted on a new recreational center, it didn't pass. It may have been because it was too costly at the time, or maybe because our sports programs were even worse than they are now.

Both of these reasons were valid at the time, but in the upcoming ballot we will have another chance to vote for or against a center. The reasons of the past don't carry as much weight in 2004, because the proposed plans for the new Recreation/Wellness/Events Center are something to behold.

The new RWEC would contain basketball courts, an indoor pool, a fitness center, a bowling center and even a movie theater. The arena in the center would be available for concerts and other special events. Seeing as our current gym facilities suck, and an improvement has been long overdue, most indoor sports programs would be interested to learn that the arena would likely be their new home court when finished.

The Associated Students, Inc. legislation supporting the project says that the RWEC "would provide the facility, the equipment and the means necessary to increase student life and time on campus for Sac State." I hope this turns out to be true. While there is no flaw in striving for wellness and fitness, there could be a conflict of interest if athletes are hogging the courts or the equipment; it would be a shame if we spend millions of dollars on a place just for jocks to hang out.

Instead, I picture a utopia in my mind: People waving while walking on treadmills. Mothers with their children, drinking fruit smoothies, smiling to passers-by. And last, but not least, an arena jam-packed with screaming Sac State fans. Not that I would ever go, but if I ever had the urge, it would be nice to know that I can find a place where students are more excited about Sac State than I am.

ASI President Peter Ucovich says that there is a need for a center that would accommodate the growing student population. With the new Jefferson Commons student housing complex going up this year, the word "need" seems appropriate.

Students will be expected to pay for at least some of the facility. In survey results released by the Coalition for Recreation, Events and Wellness, 71 percent of students are in favor of a fee increase that ranges from $100 to $150 per semester. However, only 41 percent favor a plan that would cost more than $150 per semester. Today, the students pay approximately $80 for the University Union. You might want to ask yourself on Election Day: Is the Union worth it?

The new center could also earn Sac State the attention it needs to put us in the forefront of schools nationwide. Years from now, when I'm old, someone is going to ask me where I received my degree. Out of two possibilities I would rather answer, "I went to Sac State when it wasn't popular," than have that same person ask again, "Where?"

Contact Jason Okamoto at forum@statehornet.com

Political correctness won't eliminate discrimination



NICOLE FITCH

I'm from a small town in the Midwest where basketball – or "African handball" as it's sometimes called there – is a lesser sport because of the race of people who predominantly participate in it. There is still the occasional cross-burning in the yard of black families who just moved in to town, and there are regular Ku Klux Klan meetings which are supposedly full of policemen, businessmen and even teachers from local schools. I grew up around people to whom being a race other than "white" was something to be ashamed of, an unlucky assault of nature. Our well-meaning parents taught us to be overly sensitive to those of other races to the point of pity.

When I moved to California, I was overwhelmed by the diversity. According to the US Census Bureau, only 59 percent of people in California are white, compared with around 75 percent of Midwesterners. It was uncomfortable for a while; I could never be sure how the different races would interact. What I didn't realize at the time was just how different people's mentalities are here. At first, it was so refreshing and eye-opening to be in this environment. After awhile, though, I've started to notice people on the other end of the spectrum of bigotry.

Sometimes political correctness is just as ignorance-ridden as racism. It's as if calling someone "black" is an insult. To me, saying "people of color" is just as offensive as the N-word. This phrase sounds like more of an apology for not being white rather than a description of a race of people. It's no wonder black people prefer their race to be referred to as "black." Personally, I'd rather be called "white" than "devoid of color." Coming from a place where racism can be readily witnessed on an everyday level, it is sad to see people who claim to be progressive tiptoe around the color of someone's skin.

Political correctness, while undoubtedly well-intentioned in most cases, has caused us to be too easily offended. As with women's rights, there was a very obvious need for the civil rights movement in the past, and we should be proud with how far we've come.

But can people take political correctness too far and use it to their advantage? I've heard it a thousand times: Someone claims they didn't get a job because they aren't white, aren't male or aren't young, rather than because they aren't qualified. Is this bigotry on the part of the potential employer, or a lack of personal responsibility on the part of the potential employee? No one can deny that racism still exists, but there are so many ways to overcome it that it seems ridiculous to let it get to the point of a lawsuit.

Of course, I have no idea what it's like to be part of a minority race, just as I can't judge someone's parenting because I have no children of my own. However, people who can overcome the odds – those who use the mistreatment of others to fire their ambition – are heroes in my eyes. Being discriminated against for one's race shouldn't be overcome by a lawsuit or other retaliation. The only way to truly win against cowards such as these is to prove them wrong; do whatever you can to become more than they ever thought possible.

People are mistreated in America every day for their race, religion or gender. Also, there are people who receive scholarships, are accepted to great schools and are not fired from jobs – despite poor performance – for the exact same reasons. People now fear retaliation for discrimination, even if their race had nothing to do with the situation.

This overcompensation for past and present racism has led us to the point we are at today, where we have to watch our words and our backs. What a depressing situation to be in. And it's nobody's fault but our own.

Contact Nicole Fitch at forum@statehornet.com

CAMPUS QUOTES

COMPILED BY JEN WHITE,
PHOTOS BY KIMBERLY PARK / STATE HORNET

Did you attend a community college before attending Sacramento State?



Chris Berry
Freshman
Biology

"I didn't go to a community college, because I wanted to get away from my parents."



Jenna Cardoza
Sophomore
Liberal Studies

"I like to get straight to the point and get my schooling over. I do major classes and general education, so its more beneficial for me to go straight to a university."



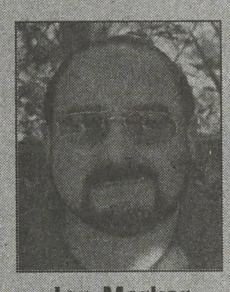
Shawna Applegate
Junior
Psychology

"I went to Cal Poly first and then a junior college, just because I had to transfer. I thought the schooling was good, but I like Sac State."



Carol Lee
Senior
Child Development

"No. I just wanted to get away from home."



Jon Merker
Senior
Communication Studies

"At the time I did it for pure cost. It was a lot less for lower division units and upper division. But didn't they raise it? Now it's going to be some awful amount."



Lisa Welter
Sophomore
Graphic Design

"Everybody from my high school went to community college, and I didn't want it to be another high school."

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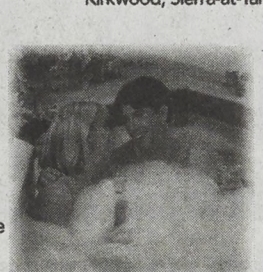


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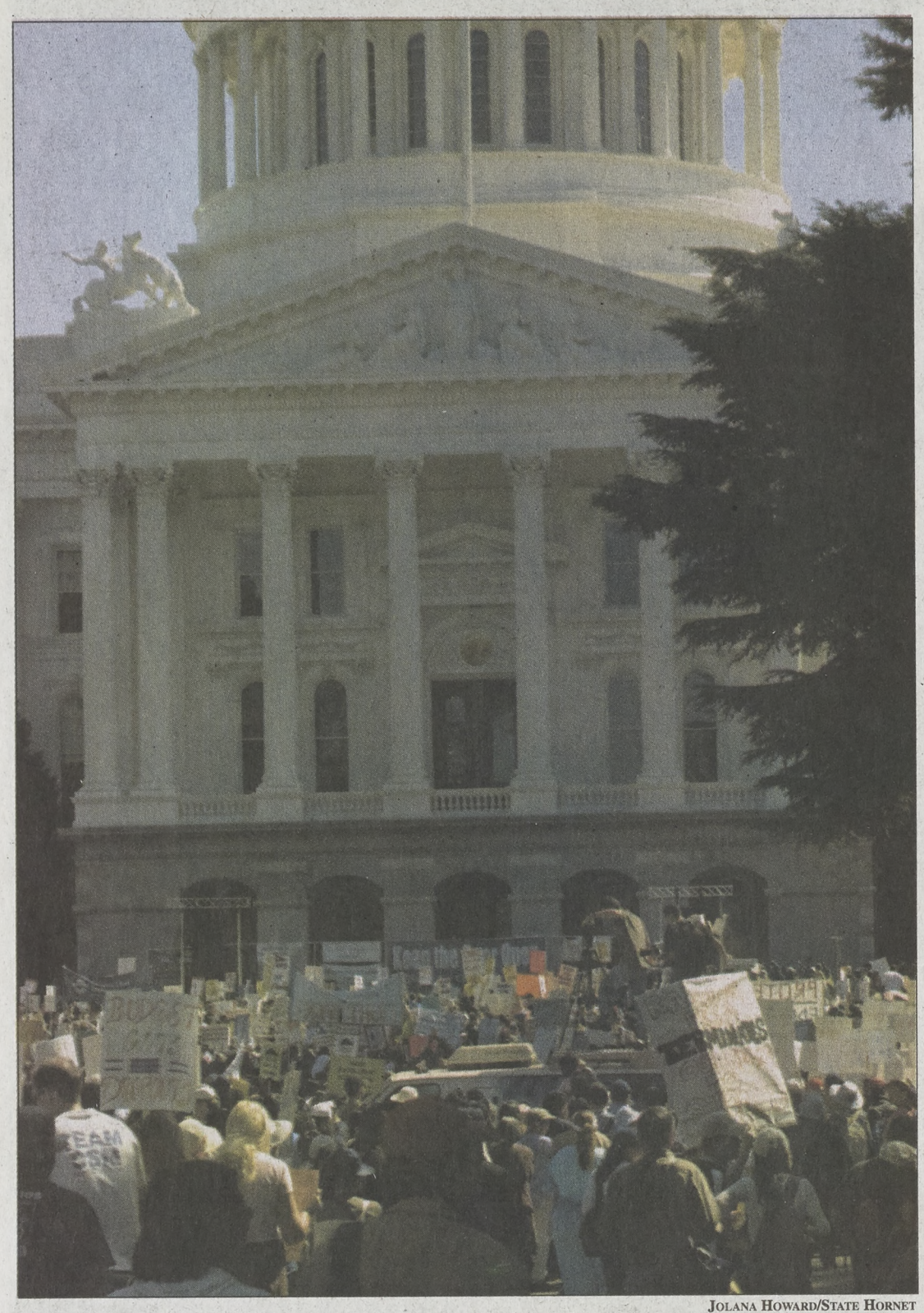
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COMMUNITY COLLEGE OUTREACH



JOLANA HOWARD/STATE HORNET

Thousands of students, part-time teachers, and more gather to protest against the rising cost of higher education on the steps on the State Capitol.

CHRISTINA SALERNO
State Hornet

Thousands of community college students from all over California descended on the State Capitol March 15 to rally against Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's proposed 44 percent increase in tuition fees.

The students marched chanting and cheering from Raley Field to the steps of the Capitol building, where they gathered in the afternoon sun to protest raising community college fees from $18 to $26 a unit.

Nora Kurdi rode a bus for seven hours from Irvine Valley College and slept overnight in Sacramento to participate in the rally.

"The budget should not be balanced on the back of students," Kurdi said. "If we don't come stand up for ourselves, who will?"

The march was led by a colorful array of life-size mannequins, representing "missing students" from the colleges. It is estimated that 175,000 students will not attend community college this year because of budget cuts and higher tuition.

"It is all about student rights. Education is our right," said Rey Resurreccion, a student from De Anza College in San Jose. "There should be no reason money is spent on the military and war, and they still raise our tuition."

Some students toted signs, many of which were anti-Schwarzenegger. "Steroid King Guts Education" read one sign, while another read "Conan Smash Evil Snake Cults, Not Our Education."

The crowd burst into cheers of "We want Arnold!" several times during the rally, and at one point chanted "Recall Two!" after a student speaker announced, "I know the governor knows what recall means. We need a sequel."

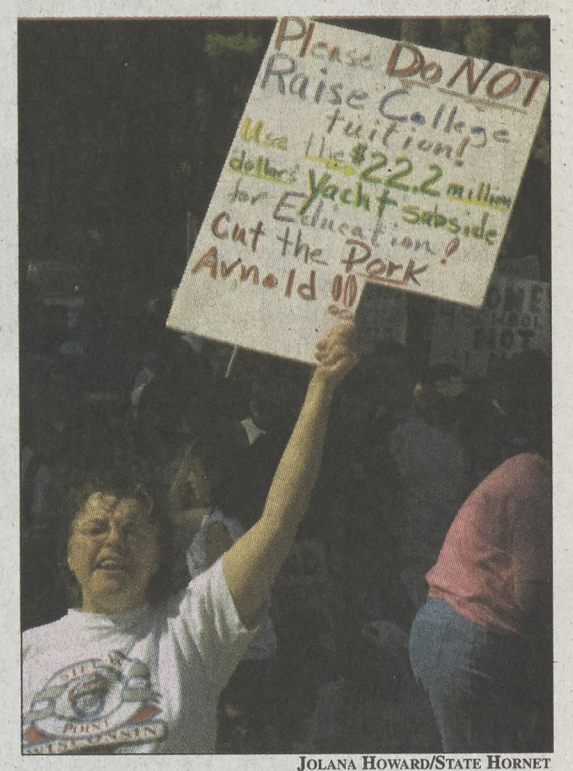
The rally featured both student speakers and politicians.

State Treasurer Phil Angelides was introduced as the anti-terminator, and said that the governor's proposals were wrong for California and for the economy.

"Here we are, in the richest state in the wealthiest nation on earth," Angelides said. "It is not fair to slash funding our community colleges, state colleges and universities that helped build California."

Lt. Gov. Cruz Bustamante told the crowd they had a right to protest.

"It is your right to have access to affordable education and it is your right to be here today to demand that," Bustamante said. "When working families are unable to afford to send their children to college there is still work to do. By you being here today you help put a face on the budget cuts."



JOLANA HOWARD/STATE HORNET

Sacramento City College student Nancy Beggs-Willoughby was affected by increasing college prices during President George Bush Sr.'s presidency, and nis now again protesting against the same rising prices.

Although the governor makes recommendations on ways to help balance the state's budget, it is ultimately up to the state legislature to hammer out the details of any proposal.

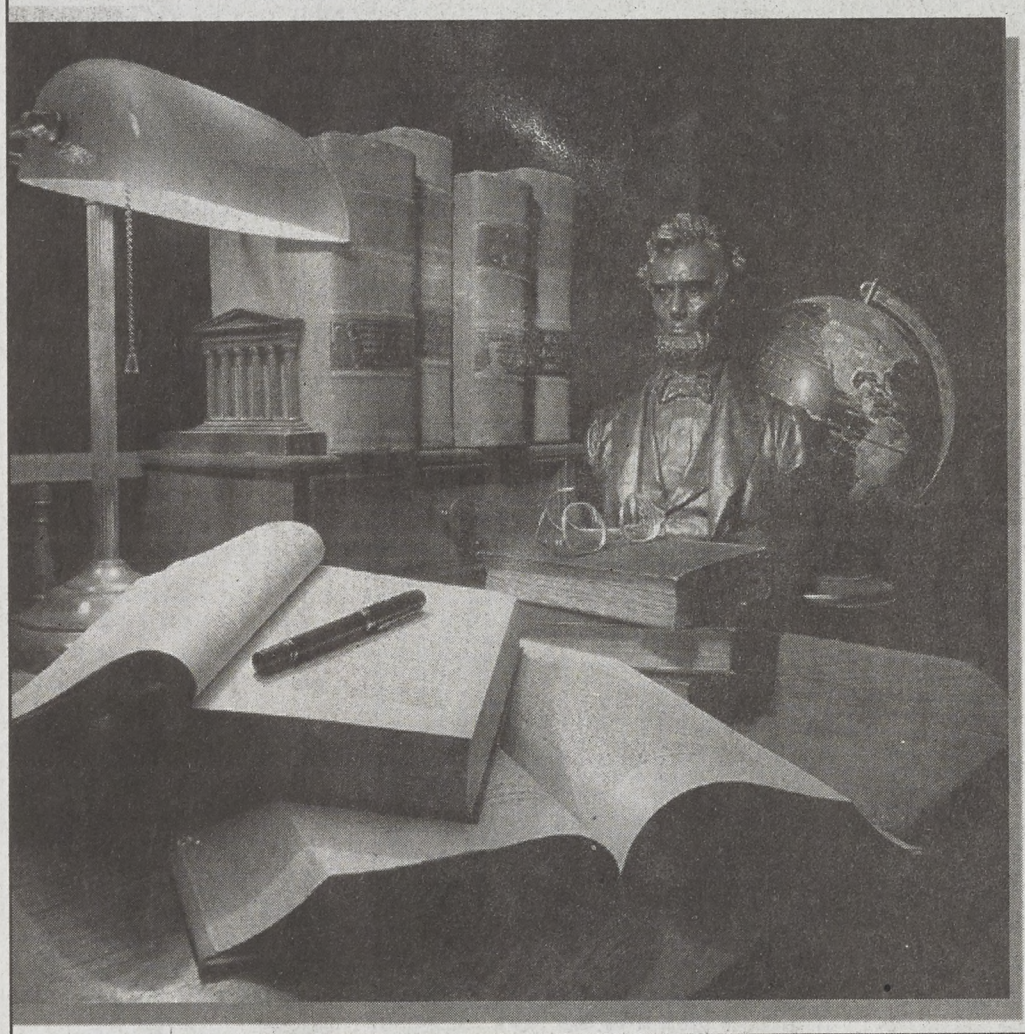
The community college system consists of two-year public institutions that serve more than 2.9 million students on 109 college campuses statewide.

The governor has also proposed redirecting first-time freshmen that are qualified to attend UC and CSU campuses to the community colleges instead to fulfill general education requirements.

Many students attend community colleges for general education because of the inexpensive fees, and later transfer to the CSU or UC systems. Some fear that redirecting thousands of students to the community college will place more of a strain on the already impacted community college system, and possibly edge out some lower-income students who may not plan to transfer to a higher institution.

"It isn't right," said Veronica Soto, a student at De Anza College. "It's not just our education that is threatened, it's our dreams."

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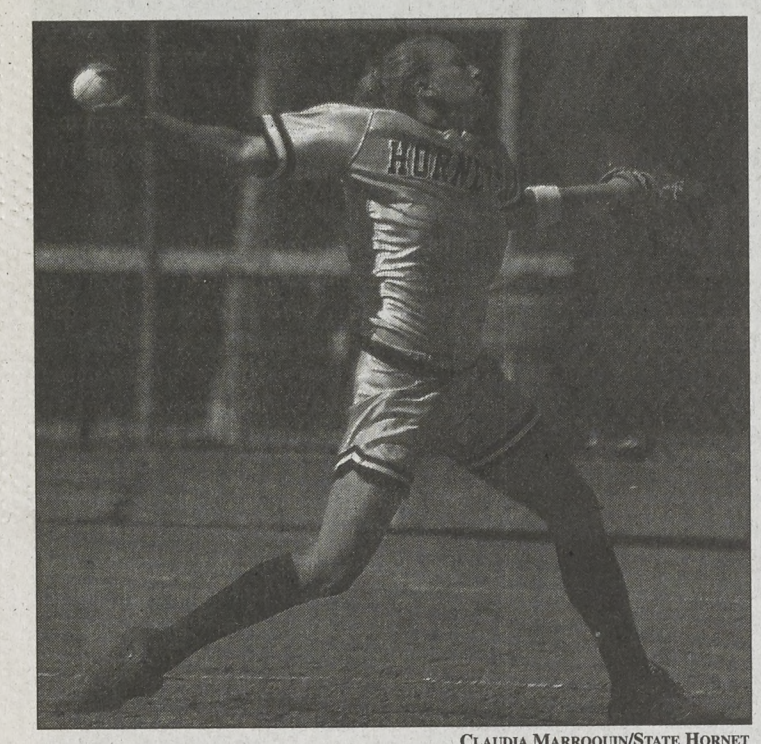
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SPORTS

THE STATE HORNET

California State University, Sacramento | March 24 | Issue 9

SOFTBALL



CLAUDIA MARROQUIN/STATE HORNET

Junior Brianne Ferguson pitched in the championship game of the Capital City Classic, Sunday. Long Beach State won 2-1.

49ers strike gold

Hornets fall to Long Beach in championship game of host tourney

JOHN PARKER
State Hornet

Of all the Sacramento State softball players looking forward to the Capital Classic Softball Tournament, Nicole Deatherage seemed the happiest at the prospect of playing at home this weekend.

"It's fun hosting a tournament up here because you don't have to travel," the Hornets' ace pitcher said. "You're so much more relaxed."

Apparently a little home cooking is all the team needed as the Hornets went 4-2 over the weekend. The Hornets advanced to the title game, where they lost 2-1 in extra innings to Long Beach State.

Coming into the final day of competition, the Hornets (15-15) had an opportunity to win the Capital Classic for the first time since 1996.

After dropping a hard-fought early morning game against Pittsburgh 2-1, with Deatherage in the circle, undefeated Long Beach State (27-7) awaited just 30 minutes later.

By virtue of winning percentage, Long Beach and Sac State played for the title, coincidentally in the final game of the round robin tournament.

Sac State got on the board first in the top of the third when Amy Walter doubled to left field driving in Lindy Winkler who had doubled to right field to begin the inning.

The 49ers struck back in the bottom half of the fifth inning when freshman right fielder Kourtnee Gervasi drove a home run over the wall in right field.

"I knew we had to score more runs, one wasn't going to hold them. I just went out and tried to get the next batter," said Ferguson, who started the game for the Hornets.

Gervasi again would leave her stamp on the outcome of the game in extra innings.

With the score tied at one in the top of the eighth and two out, Walter scorched a ball into right field prompting Stephanie Lockhart pinch running at third to break for home. Gervasi had been drawn in on the play from the outfield, picked up the hot-shot and threw out Walter at first nullifying the go-ahead run Lockhart would have scored.

"I hit it pretty hard right at her and she made a good play," Walter said of the deciding play. "It was a close play but she got me."

SOFTBALL: Page B3

FOOTBALL

UC Davis returns Causeway carriage

ANGELINA LABARRE
State Hornet

"Plans are Made for (Sacramento State College), Aggie Rivalry Trophy" read the headline of the Nov. 20, 1959 issue of The State Hornet when it was announced that the newly instituted trophy, a horse-drawn carriage, was being shipped from Arizona to Sacramento.

The donated carriage was to be used as a symbol of rivalry between the then named Sacramento State College and UC Davis.

Only a few years ago, this carriage was a motivator for the Sac State football team and one of the few traditions that has survived through the years.

However, this tradition is in danger of disappearing because Davis has decided that they no longer want to house the carriage and returned it to Sac State for storage.

"They've never been enthused about it, because it was our idea," said Bob Mattos, a former player and former coach of the Sac State football team. "They never really respected it."

For Sac State, this piece of history has been an enthusiastic focal point and a motivating factor for coaches and players alike during the Causeway Classic.

With the return of the carriage, a committee has been formed in order to keep the tradition of the carriage alive. Its goal is to see the carriage refurbished and stored on

CARRIAGE: Page B3

STUDENT POLL

What's your Game?

The State Hornet polls students on their pro sports allegiances*



Favorite NBA team?
-Kings: 65%
-Lakers: 13%
-Warriors: 12%

Favorite MLB team?
-Giants: 47%
-A's: 24%
-Dodgers: 14%

Favorite NFL team?
-Niners: 51%
-Raiders: 15%
-Cowboys: 8%

Favorite NHL team?
-Sharks: 36%
-none: 30%
-Kings: 9%

Most hated team?
-Lakers: 38%
-Raiders: 13%
-Dodgers: 10%

Most hated player?
-Shaq: 29%
-Kobe: 14%
-Bonds: 13%

Favorite Pro team?
-Kings: 18%
-A's: 15%
-49ers/SF Giants: 13%

Greatest Sac athlete?
-Kevin Johnson: 26%
-Mitch Richmond: 18%
-Peja Stojakovic: 16%

Favorite TV sport?
-Basketball: 42%
-Football: 36%
-Baseball: 9%

Favorite LIVE sport?
-Basketball: 43%
-Football: 24%
-Baseball: 16%

Pro or College sports?
-Pro: 50%
-College: 26%
-Equal: 24%

Favorite sport to PLAY?
-Basketball: 40%
-Football: 21%
-Soccer: 19%

**Survey reflects 200 randomly selected students*

GRAPHIC BY RICHARD COPPA, SURVEY COMPILED BY ROBERT ALVIS

BASEBALL

UCR pounds Hornets

GREG HYATT
State Hornet



TRACY DOPP/STATE HORNET

Jack Arroyo tagged out UC Riverside's Jose Shaw trying to steal second.

Another strong showing by pitcher Ethan Katz was the only bright spot in a disappointing weekend for the Hornets, who dropped three out of four games at Hornet Field.

The action concluded on Monday afternoon as the UC Riverside Highlanders pounded the Hornets 9-1. The Hornets are now 15-15, while the Highlanders improve to 14-11.

The Highlanders hit almost everything the Hornet staff threw at them, cranking out 16 hits on the afternoon against six Hornet pitchers.

Freshman starter Billy Sinacori, 1-4, took the loss and left the game in the top of third trailing 2-0.

Highlanders starter John Martinez stayed perfect on the season, improving his record to 4-0.

Hornet third baseman John Acha kept his hitting streak alive at 14 games with a pair of singles.

The Hornets dropped the second game of a doubleheader on Sunday 4-2 against UC Riverside, despite a complete game effort from starting pitcher Warren Rosebrock.

With 12 hits the Hornet offense made plenty of noise, but stranded too many runners.

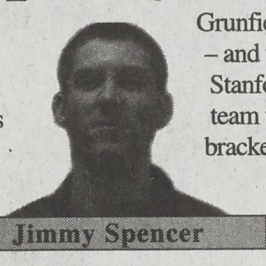
Rosebrock, now 3-3, took the loss after allowing nine hits and three earned runs in nine innings.

Bret LeVier went 3-for-3, while John Acha and Matt Wilson both went 2-for-4 for Sac State.

BASEBALL: Page B4

BASKETBALL

Kicked out of March Madness party too early



Jimmy Spencer

Everyone needs a good party buddy. Someone they can rely on to get them through tough times and bring some laughs along the way.

During March Madness, that buddy is even more crucial.

Filling out your bracket is like surfing for ladies at a huge party – so many options, so much hope, so much opportunity (… and you're drunk). Oh yeah, and nobody knows what they're doing.

Everybody has their March Madness picks. For a brief moment, everyone feels like a genius and that their picks cannot be outdone. The arguments go on and on until someone's feelings get hurt and someone is proven wrong.

But if you have the right wingman, a player that can lead your championship pick to victory, then everything is money.

For me, my buddy turned out to be Dan Grunfield – one sorry-ass wingman – and the bench player for Stanford that could have led my team to glory, making me a bracket genius.

Grunfield: A solid, boring man.

If Dan were a state he would be Delaware. If he were a TV show he'd be "The View." I mean the poor sap reminds me more of a chess or crew team member than he does a basketball stud.

Do yourself a favor and look this guy's face up on the internet. He's the kind of guy you can just look at and start feeling like an big-time athlete. Yet he is always reliable – the kind of guy who would help you put chairs away after an ice cream social.

But sometimes you find out who your true friends really are. Danny-boy let me

SPENCER: Page B4

Sports and scandal – ain't it grand?



O.J. Simpson Trial

By Robert Alvis

O.J. Simpson was one of the greatest running backs in NFL history, but his legacy won't be that of his play on the field, rather the trial of the century.

O.J. Simpson was put on trial for the June 12, 1994 slayings of his ex-wife Nicole Brown Simpson and Ronald Goldman.

Talk about scandal: a racist cop, bad DNA evidence and a glove that didn't fit.

This trial had all the makings of a Hollywood movie; they could have put this trial on TV. They did. Every day for nearly seven months, the Simpson case dominated the news.

This was a story so good; there could have been a book written about it, or two, or one by every person somehow involved in the trial.

Everyone had to pick a side. You either believed he was innocent or guilty; there was no fence-sitting on the issue.

As the jury went into deliberations, the whole nation held its breath.

After only a few hours, the jury came back with their verdict: not guilty.

Outrage and jubilation were the immediate responses, depending on what side you were on.

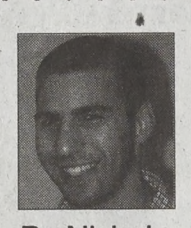
Then came the civil trial.

The jury found Simpson liable for the deaths of both the victims and awarded the families $8.5 million.

Simpson, long out of football and with his acting career suddenly stalled out, had to sell many of his belongings to pay the settlement.

Years after the trial, people will still get heated on the subject.

Fear not, my friends. Simpson vowed to find the real killers, and someday I'm sure he will.



Hornet PAM Scandal

By Nicholas Lozito

Jameel Pugh could leap over a 7-foot center for an elbow-in-the-rim jam and the footage still wouldn't end up on Sportscenter. But catch a few defensive linemen spraying each other down on the sidelines with PAM, a non stick cooking spray, and our university gets thrown into the national spotlight.

Jay Leno's Nov. 18, 2002, monologue: "The Sacramento State football players were accused of spraying Pam on their uniforms to make them harder to tackle. The Cincinnati Bengals were accused of the same thing, but they did it so that the eggs won't stick when they're thrown by the fans."

The 2002 football season was a forgettable one for former Hornet coach John Volek. In fact, Volek wasn't even on the sidelines during the PAM incident; he was serving a one-game suspension for comments he made toward game officials after the prior week's loss.

Two weeks prior to PAM-gate, or PAM-scam, Volek was forced to suspend five players for smoking marijuana in a hotel room.

In the season's opening week, Volek suspended another player for violating the team's "code of conduct."

Less than a month later, Volek was fired.

Although his career record stood at 31-56-1, including a 5-7 record in his final season, there is no doubt Volek's dismissal was in large part because of his players' actions throughout the season.

Two years later, the word PAM still brings a sick feeling to my stomach.

And it will take a lot of Jameel Pugh posterizations to make it go away.

STATE HORNET QUIZ

An NCAA probe into the Georgia basketball program discovered that assistant coach/basketball professor Jim Harrick Jr. gave ridiculously easy final exams to his Principals and Strategies of Basketball class. The exam featured the following questions:

How many halves are in a college basketball game?

How many points does one field goal count for in a college basketball game?

How many goals are on a basketball court?

In light of Harrick's quiz, we at The State Hornet have created a quiz of our own…

The Questions...

1. Who is Sac State's all time leader in passing yards?
2. Against which team did Sac State volleyball record their only NCAA Tournament win?
3. How many Big Sky Tournament appearances has the men's basketball team made?
4. What Hornet softball player was taken by the Sacramento Sunbirds in the NPF draft?
5. What league houses the Sac State baseball team?

E-mail quiz answers to statehornetsports@hotmail.com. The first responder with all five correct answers will be invited to participate in next week's *On 2nd Thought:* Who is the ugliest athlete in sports?



Steroids and Baseball

By Curtis Grima

Imagine yourself as a young athlete finally graduating from AAA ball and headed straight for the pros. Your dreams are finally becoming a reality as you step into the clubhouse anticipating trying on your first MLB jersey. You turn the corner and walk in only to see some of the hugest artificial bodies you have ever seen in your life. Reality finally sets in: You're not in the minor leagues, there is no more drug testing, these guys don't play by the rules.

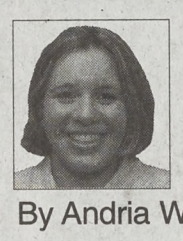
Anyone who does not believe that steroids are a problem in MLB is on crack. Guys come back in the spring with an extra 20-30 lbs on their body … how do you think it got there? There are no natural legal supplements that give these kinds of results.

It is just so blatantly obvious that it has become a joke. I love the Giants, I love Bonds and I love baseball. But the MLB has become a circus of illegitimate statistics and records. The biggest joke in the MLB: the single season homerun record.

Roger Maris was not a cheater. He relied on physical talent to establish his credibility, not steroids.

Steroid use in baseball has gone way too far.

It is almost impossible to make a statement or lead a team without doing it illegally. MLB is dammed if they do and dammed if they don't. If they allow drug testing, many players will be humiliated and baseball will be the laughing stock of America. If they don't drug test, they will still be the laughing stock of America. Ha ha baseball, everyone knows you're fake!



Georgia Testing

By Andria Wenzel

I wish Jim Harrick Jr. would teach my media law class, then maybe I wouldn't be in jeopardy of not graduating this Spring.

The final exam he gave students in his basketball class at the University of Georgia was full of thought-provoking analytical mulitiple choice questions such as this, "How many points does a 3-point field goal account for in a basketball game?"

I'm pretty sure this guy doesn't have a job anymore, so can somebody in the government department please sign this guy up – even as a part-timer.

Why can't all professors issue final exams like this one?

The other questions on the test asked what color uniforms the Bulldogs wear, what gym they play in and how many goals are on the basketball court.

If every professor was like Harrick Jr. I'd be on spring break until May 21 when I get to walk at graduation.

So here is a plea to professors everywhere. Please, please follow Harrick Jr.'s example. I mean this guy should really be voted teacher of the year, hands down, no question.

I think this valid and efficient multiple choice test should be reinstated to the educational system over all long drawn out essay exams.

Readers and graders will be a thing of the past. Just think of all the money that will be saved to help with the budget cuts.

I think questions should actually have the answers stated in them, because I am sure as Harrick Jr. found out with March Madness coming in the middle of the school year, there really is no equitable time for students to study.

His motto probably went something like this, "study long, study wrong."

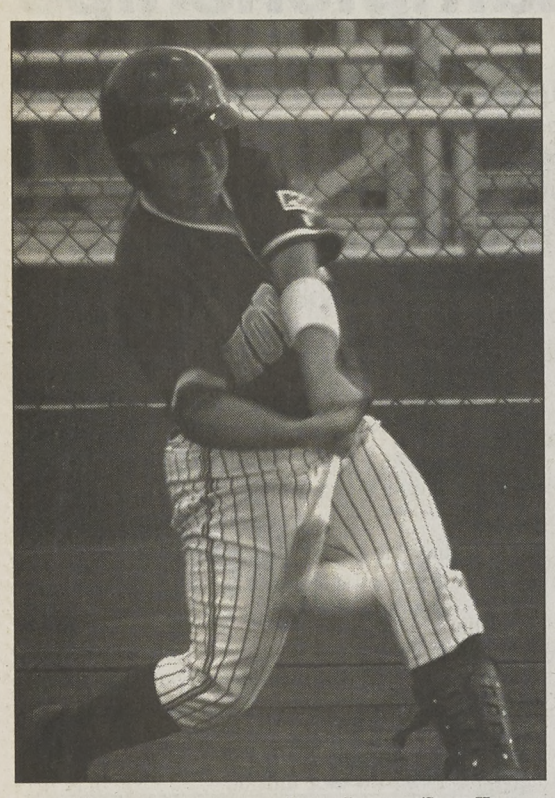
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SOFTBALL: Deatherage no-hits Long Island



KATHY BUSTILLO/STATE HORNET
Amy Hillel bats in Friday's game vs. Long Island.

Continued from B1

Long Beach State coach Pete Manarino said, "Those were the biggest plays of the game and it was nice to see a freshman make them."

The 49ers, revitalized after the close call in the top of the inning, took advantage of a couple of untimely Hornet errors in the bottom of the frame.

Under international tie-breaker rules, Long Beach's Lauren Johnson was placed on second base to start the inning and then advanced to third on a Ferguson wild pitch. Johnson would eventually score on a Jamie Farnworth single up the middle that ricocheted off Ferguson's glove and got past second baseman Jess Rojo and Walter playing at shortstop, and giving Long Beach the 2004 Capital Classic Title.

Deatherage took the mound Friday night at the Sacramento Softball Complex against Long Island University, the team that beat her in last year's Capital Classic, and threw a no-hit shutout, striking out nine batters and facing just two over the minimum in the Hornets' 4-0 victory.

At one point Deatherage struck out six Blackbirds in a row, spanning through the first three innings.

"I threw hard inside because they couldn't catch up to it, and I threw rise balls with two strikes," Deatherage said describing the strategy of attack.

"Nicole has great game tempo, she keeps a good rhythm when she pitches," Joanna O'Neill who started the game behind the plate said. "Nothing rattles her, and she bounces back real well."

Deatherage surrendered just one walk and two other Blackbirds reached via errors.

"On the balls that were errors, I just pretended they were hits, but I really wasn't sure if they'd be ruled hits or errors anyway," Deatherage said. "It didn't matter, I knew they wouldn't advance."

Hornets head coach Kathy Strahan was impressed by her ace's performance.

"She's playing like a pro," Strahan said. "She won't bend, let alone break right now, she's tough."

The offense did its part, taking advantage of Long Island's errors in the field. Amanda Moreland, who went 2-for-2 with a walk, got the Hornets on the scoreboard in the bottom of the second inning when a Long Island throwing error with the bases loaded allowed her to score.

Sac State would get two more runs in the third inning when Lesley Mayhorn singled to left field driving home Rojo, who had singled to open the inning. After Mayhorn stole second and Moreland walked, Deatherage came up with the bases loaded and hit a sacrifice fly to straightaway centerfield to score Jenni Friedrichs, who was pinch-running for designated player Erin Coyne. The Hornets would tack another run on in the bottom of the fifth when Moreland came around on a fielding error by Blackbird left fielder Sayde Marzolf.

Combined with a 2-0 win earlier in the day against Purdue, the Hornets atoned for the losses they suffered against Iowa earlier in the week and began their tournament on a roll.

"It's nice to get back on a winning streak and get back to .500," Strahan said after the first day of games. "Now we just need to launch beyond it. Iowa was a setback but I was happy that we came out and got these wins."

Brianne Ferguson, who picked up the win versus Purdue was again the pitcher of record in the Hornets' first game Saturday against Wisconsin and again went the distance, this time for a 3-0 shutout.

Ferguson kept the Badger attack at bay, and wiggled her way out of jams in each of the first three innings when Wisconsin put a runner on third with just one out. Each time, the Ceres native came up with a timely ground ball out, either to herself or Rojo who had a breakout tournament at the plate, going 5-for-18 with a hit in all but one game.

"A lot of different people did good things today and that helps the team out," Ferguson said. "Jess has stepped up the past few weeks, she's batting so well and her defense has been great too."

Rojo transferred to Sac State from Western Illinois prior to last season and walked on to the softball team as a third baseman. After struggling for playing time last year, Rojo has flourished since being moved into the third spot in the batting order last week and now has the second best batting average on the team after getting her first plate appearances at the NIST last weekend in Sunnyvale.

"I think the difference is that I've been given the chance," Rojo said. "I was patient, waiting for my chance and now that it's here I just want to contribute to the offense and play good defense. This is a good offensive team, so if you're gonna hit near the top of the lineup you need to be legit."

Rojo had a hit, an RBI and scored a run in the Saturday nightcap versus Utah State, now coached by former Sac State assistant Debbie Bilbao. The Hornets would go on to win the game 4-2 behind Deatherage who came in and struck out ten batters in relief of frosh starter Jennifer Fryou. Winkler, Walter and right fielder Amber Dragomir each had two hits in the game.

The two hit performance by the slap-hitting Dragomir extended her consecutive games hit streak to a career-high 11 before it was snapped in Sunday's action.

Sac State finished the tournament with a 4-2 record and now has a 15-15 overall record for the year after dropping nine of their first 13 games of the year.

"I'm pleased to go 4-2 in our own tournament; the two losses were one-run ball games. We're doing well and we just ran out of gas toward the end. We played a lot of games this weekend," Strahan said. "We just got beat by teams that did a little bit better than us."

CARRIAGE: Campus looks for places to house trophy

Continued from B1

campus, preferably in public so the students can be aware of their school's history.

"It was the most memorable time at Sac State. We sung the fight song, bounced into the carriage and rode it all the way around the stadium," said Trent Lastinger, a former player and student of Sac State.

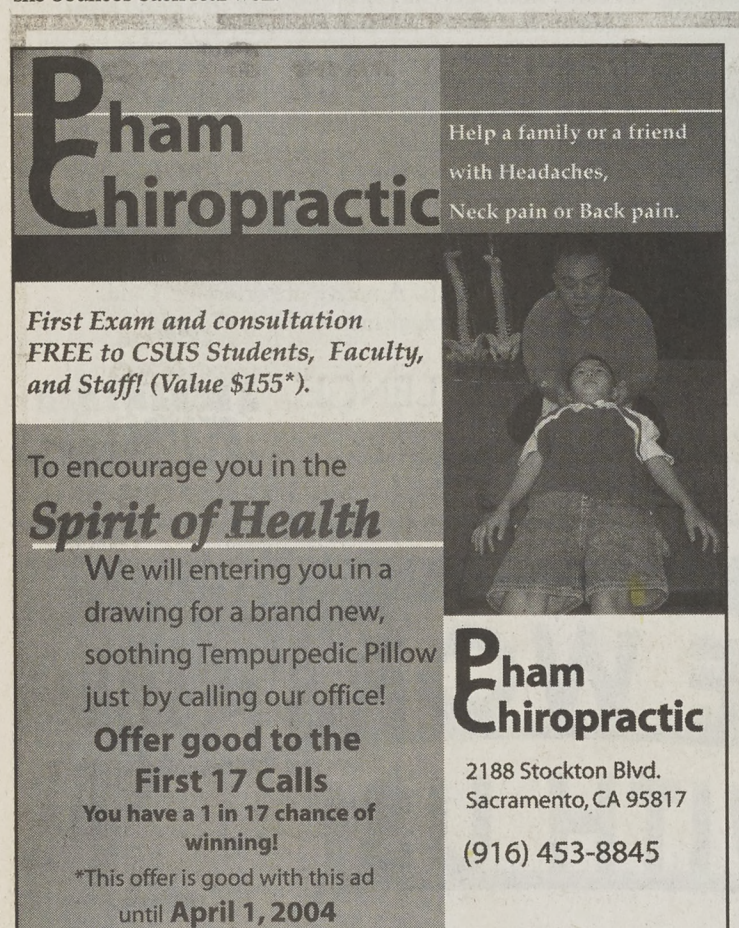
He was among the players who secured the carriage and the last win against UC Davis in 1999.

Joseph Manzella, supervising electrician of facilities management, has suggested hanging it in the lobby of the union or in the breezeway of the library in order to keep it in the student eye.

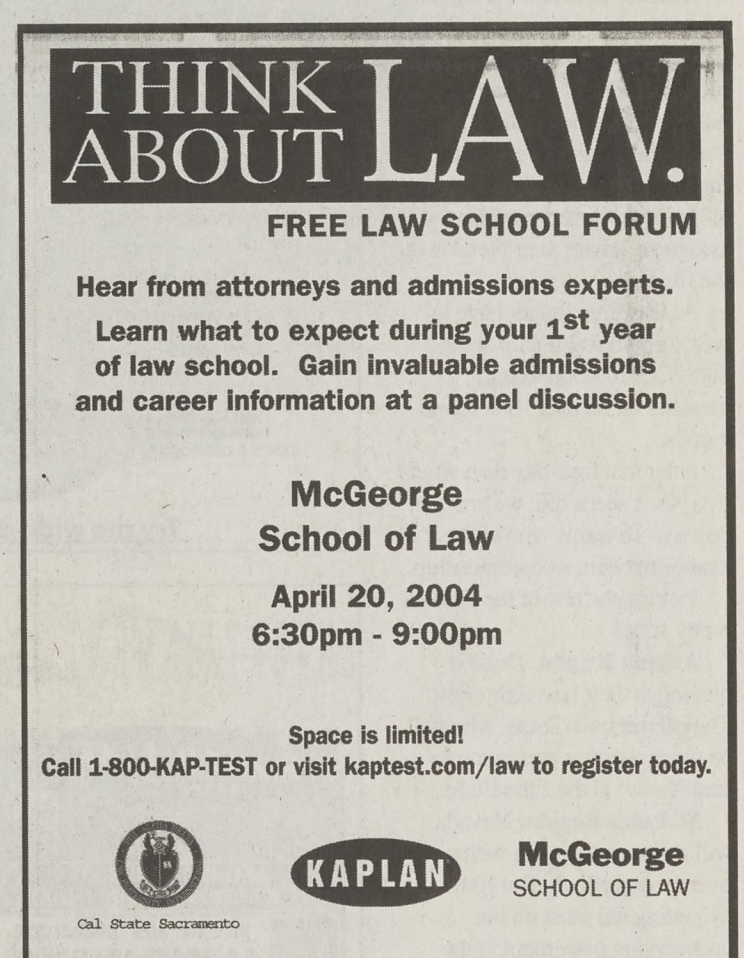
The committee is estimating the cost of the refurbishment to be near $10,000.

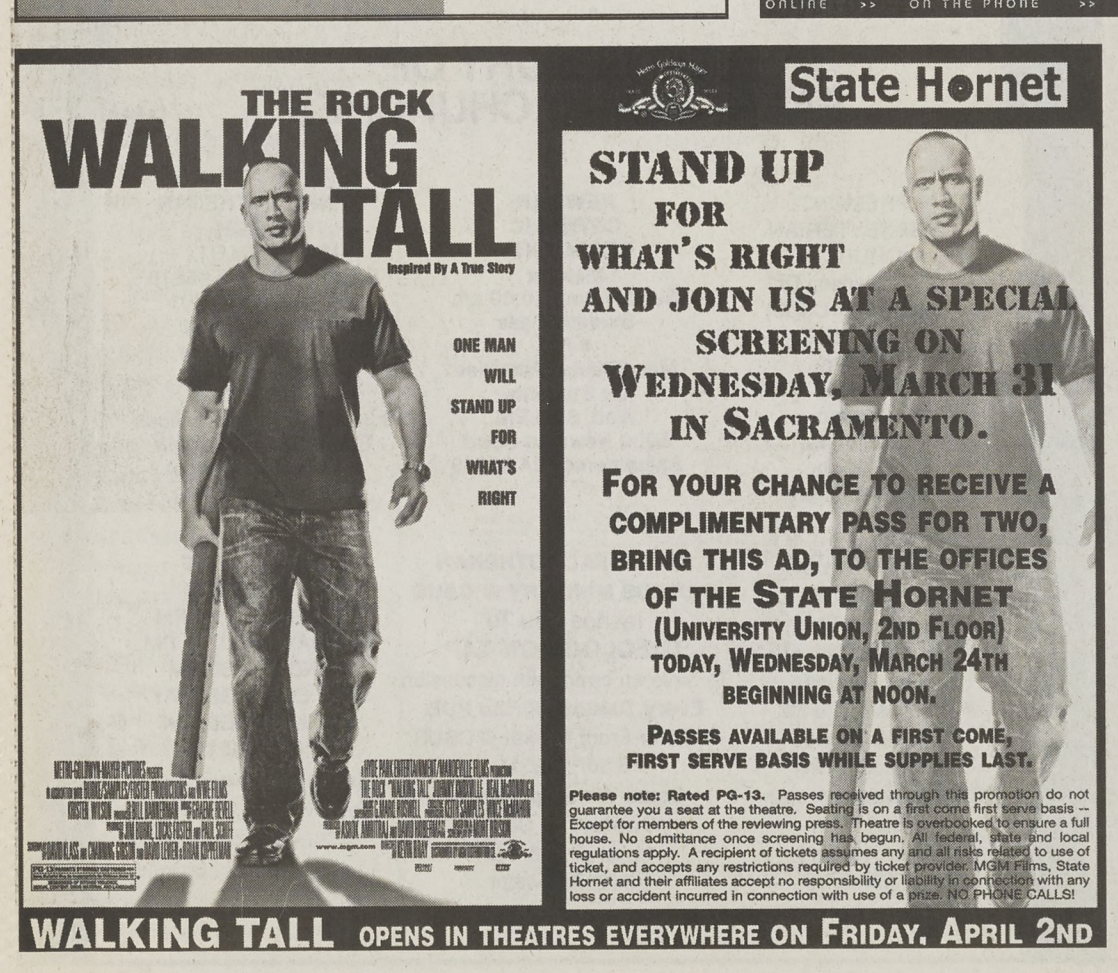
"It needs new tires and wheels, the skin needs to be redone, and it needs to be sandblasted among other things," Manzella said, referring to the repair necessary to return the carriage to its previous state of being.













SPENCER: March misery

Continued from B1

down.

Grunfield's game-tying 3-point attempt fell short against Alabama in the second round of the NCAA tournament – failing to take care of me at the big party and sending me home early.

Suddenly I started wondering why I was hanging out with the guy anyway. I mean how did he make the team in the first place?

Stanford coach: "Well, we didn't really recruit Dan, he just sort of showed up. We knew his Dad had some NBA ties so we couldn't really ask him to leave. Plus, you try saying no to that face. He asked if he could have some warm-ups, we said yes. He asked if he could play a little off the bench, we said yes. So when he asked us if he could take the biggest shot of the year it was like 'why not,' ya know?"

OK, maybe it's not just Grunfield's fault. Maybe it's just Stanford as a whole. I mean, if March Madness is the party, then Stanford is your group of friends who always want to leave the party early. Stanford is fun to hang out with during the week and at small get-togethers, but maybe I should start calling up Duke or even Syracuse … those guys know how to party. (I guess this probably makes Sac State the loser who was never even invited to the party.)

With all the upsets this March, you could say the cops came and broke this party up early… like 11:30 early. Stanford, Kentucky, Gonzaga, Mississippi State – all gone. And that's just through the second round.

You start glancing through the leaderboard of your Internet tournament pool and the biggest idiots are on top of the standings. You know, the guys who had the most trouble just figuring out how to set up their ESPN username to join the pool in the first place.

Lucky for everyone else they also have Xavier over Nevada in the finals.

At least I no longer have to worry about waking up at the butt-crack of noon to start catching up on these first round games.

After that four-day rush where two No. 1 seeds fell, we are down to 16 teams who all have a chance to claim a championship.

Picking the rest of the field is pretty simple:

Atlanta Region: Duke is playing at their best right now. They'll roll over Texas, who will be worn out after struggling to beat Xavier in the Elite Eight.

St. Louis Region: Nevada will continue their run with a win over Georgia Tech. But Kansas, by getting the most unfair, undeserving placement in the tournament, will make it to the Final Four for the third-straight year without having to beat a seed higher than No. 9 UAB.

East Rutherford Region: Oklahoma State moves past Pittsburgh, while St. Joe's knocks off Wake Forest. The Cowboys take out the third No. 1 seed and advance.

Phoenix Region: UConn should have no problem moving past Vanderbilt, while Syracuse is the next team upset by Alabama (they beat the best in Stanford, so they must be the best). Alabama's luck runs out against Uconn.

Final Four: With a No. 1 in Duke, two No. 2's in Oklahoma State and UConn, and a No. 4 in Kansas, the tournament finally starts acting serious. The easy choice is Duke and Oklahoma State in the finals, and from there you have to choose the Dukies. I hate it, but Duke came out of this crapshoot as National Champs.

Trust me, I'm never wrong.

Contact Jimmy Spencer at JSpencer916@hotmail.com

Gymnastics places second in championships

HORNET STAFF

The Sacramento State gymnastics team placed second with a score of 195.40 at the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation Championships held in San Jose on Saturday. San Jose State captured the team title with a score of 195.925.

UC Davis finished in third place behind the Hornets.

The second-place finish snaps the Hornets' streak of two-consecutive MPSF titles. Sac State narrowly missed an at-large berth into the NCAA West Regionals, finishing 0.19 points behind Cal State Fullerton. The Hornets missed the West Regionals in 2002 by 0.07 points.

Hornet senior Binta Coleman won the all-around title with a score of 39.350, while Nirvana Zaher won the vault title with a score of 9.875. Zaher also won the MPSF vault title in 2003.

Both Coleman and Zaher qualified to compete in the all-around competition at regionals, while Meloney Aeder advanced to compete in the floor exercise. The regionals will be held on April 3 at Oregon State.

Track competes in SoCal

30 Hornet athletes placed in the Top 10 at the USC Invite on Saturday.

Senior Joel Johnson's discus throw of 157 feet, 2 inches was good enough for fourth place in the program's record book. He finished seventh in the event.

Geoff Fong and David Nichols finished fifth and seventh, respectively, in the shot put. Senior Robert Linkful placed fourth in the hammer toss.

For the women, Candice Mills placed third in the long jump with a leap of 19 feet. Roshena Duree placed fifth in the triple jump with a mark of 38 feet, 11 inches. Sabrina Kirkwood placed fifth in the shot put with a throw of 43 feet, one and a half inches.

The Hornets will next compete in the Hornet Invitational on Saturday at Hornet Stadium.

Men's tennis falls to Gaels

The Sacramento State men's tennis team fell to a 5-6 record with a 4-3 loss to St. Mary's on Friday in Morage.

Nick Sheehan and Peter Farkas both won their singles matches at the No. 2 and No. 6 seeds, respectively. The Hornets also captured the doubles point, but lost four of six singles matches.

The Hornets defeated Weber State 7-0 on March 16.

The Hornets will next play in the Boise State Tournament on March 25-27.

Students-athletes honored

The Director's Academic Achievement Award was given to 193 Sacramento State student-athletes for "excellence in the classroom" over the fall semester. Seven athletes recorded a 4.0 GPA during the fall semester, while six Hornet programs averaged over a 3.0 team GPA.

"The success of our student-athletes in the classroom is paramount to our overall vision for the athletics program," athletic director Terry Wanless said.

– Info. Gathered from Sports Info. Dept.

BASEBALL: Acha homers in loss

Continued from B1

The Hornets didn't fare any better in game one of the doubleheader, losing to Cal Poly 5-2.

A two-run homer from Acha in the first inning was all the scoring the Hornets could muster.

Mick Joyce, now 0-1, took the loss after three runs on four hits forced his early exit after two innings.

The Mustangs' pitching duo of Garret Olson and Nolan Moser kept the Hornets bats in check.

Olson's only mistake was the homer in the first. He struck out seven in five innings for the win. Moser gave up just one hit in three innings of scoreless relief.

The Hornets lone victory of the weekend came on Saturday, thanks to another outstanding pitching performance from Katz.

For the second consecutive start, Katz threw a complete game leading the Hornets to a 3-1 win over Cal Poly San Luis Obispo.

Nursing a 3-1 lead in the ninth with two outs and the tying run at second base, Katz found himself in a battle with Mustang first baseman Bret Berglund, who fouled off pitch after pitch. Katz finally got Berglund to ground out to end the game.

"We went away, away, with the fast ball, but he was tough," Hornet catcher Buddy Morales said. "We went to a fast ball inside on the last pitch for the ground out."

Katz struck out eight batters and scattered seven hits, while throwing 138 pitches. His team leading record improved to 5-1, while his earned run average now stands at 2.91.

"He had good command of everything," Hornet manager John Smith said of Katz. "That battle at the end was classic – I was thrilled for him."

The Hornets will try to get over .500 when they make the short trip to the University of Pacific for two games on Thursday and Friday.

HomeTurf

Baseball
→ vs. Pacific — March 27 1 p.m.
March 28 1 p.m.

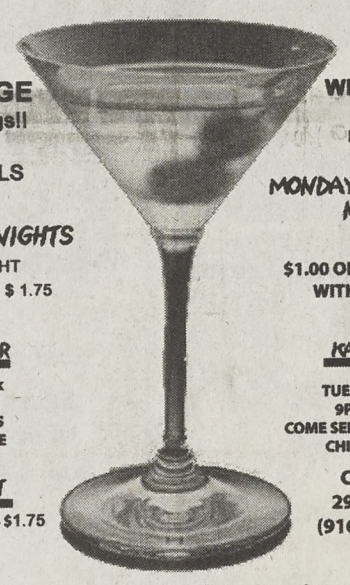
Track & Field
→ Hornet Invitational — March 27 All Day

Softball
→ vs. Pacific (Double Header) — March 27 12 p.m.

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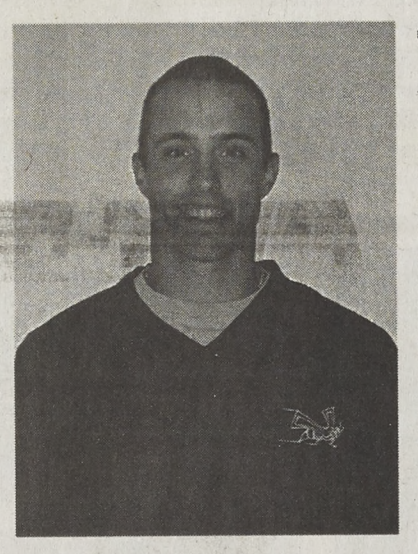
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CSUS Student ATHLETE of the WEEK



Craig Johnson, Baseball

Junior Craig Johnson has been named Hornet Bookstore Athlete of the Week for his efforts in leading the baseball team to a 3-1 record last week with an 8-6 win at Santa Clara before taking two-of-three from San Francisco State (4-0, 15-9, 4-5). Against the Gators, Johnson finished the series 6-for-12 (.500) with four runs, three doubles, four RBI, and a stolen base. The Hornets are now 4-1 in three-game sets this season. In the 15-9 win on Mar. 13, the right fielder went 4-for-5 from the plate with three runs, two doubles and three RBI. Johnson, a transfer from Porterville JC, currently leads the squad with 27 runs, a triple, 25 walks, a .466 on-base percentage, 11 stolen bases, four outfield assists and seven sacrifice bunts. A native of Porterville, Calif., Johnson is a psychology major with a 3.77 gpa.

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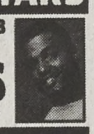
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Hornets lose 6 seniors; look to reload at guard

ANDRIA WENZEL
State Hornet

A record-breaking season has come and gone for Sacramento State men's basketball and now the focus shifts on reloading for next season.

The Hornets will replace four of its top five leading scorers from a team that hosted a playoff game for the first time in school history and won a program-high seven conference games and 13 overall.

"The program has to keep moving on, nobody is bigger than the program," head coach Jerome Jenkins said. "It is time for new Hornets to step up now."

Key returning players next season will be point guards DaShawn Freeman, E.J. Harris and James Payne along with guard Jameel Pugh and forwards Alex Bausley and Chris Lange.

Senior Joseth Dawson was the team's leading scorer this season finishing fourth in conference averaging 16.4 points per game and becoming only the second player in program history to be named to the all-Big Sky first team.

Joel Jones received a Big Sky honorable mention averaging 12.3 points per game. Brandon Guyton finished the year scoring a career-high 78 3-pointers, while Cedric Thompkins finished second in conference with 2.86 offensive rebounds per game.

New players will be asked to fill the roles of the departing seniors. Additions to the team include redshirt freshman Jason Gilzene and Mark Schmidt. The 6-foot-9 Schmidt suffered a torn ACL while playing for Yuba College during the 2002-03 season and still has three years of eligibility left.

"(Mark) blocks a tremendous amount of shots," Jenkins said. "That's the one thing he showed us in practice. The bigs really had to learn how to get their shot off around the basket because he will block it. That will be a good element to add to the program next year – something that we've really never had."

The coaching staff is currently recruiting players to fill the roles of its six departing seniors. The Hornets have signed 6-foot-4 Jason Harris from Chaffey Junior College in Rancho Cucamonga where he averaged 18.9 points per game and shot 52 percent from the floor last season.

Recruiting has not been entirely smooth. Jenkins acknowledges that he has lost out on three recruits to Boise State, Nevada, and UC Irvine. The Hornets defeated Irvine this season, but facilities may have played a part in the recruits' decisions.

"(Recruits) are not going to come out and say it," Jenkins said. "(Facilities) go a long way in recruits' eyes. It's not going to make them a better basketball player but I have to be a little understanding to it. I know recruiters hold it against us and say 'you don't want to go play there. That is a high school gym.' That's been said 1,000 times."

Sac State will have to recover from losing its top three shooters and improve its post play which at times this season, with the exception of Thompkins, struggled in the half court offense.

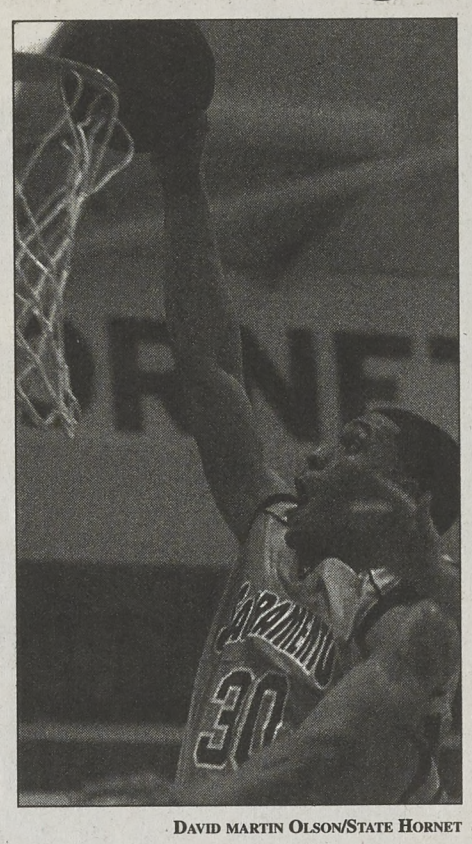
Two players expected to fill those roles will be Freeman and Lange, respectively.

"DaShawn is already talking about 'coach I am a three-point shooter,'" Jenkins said. "But it is all about players making plays. DaShawn isn't a baby anymore. He's definitely going to have to step up and take a few more shots."

Sac State finished first in the Big Sky averaging 8.14 steals per game and defense will also be a focus of next year's team.

"We may not average as many points next year, but we want to hold our opponents scoring average down," Jenkins said. "I think that is one thing that we are really looking for in recruiting is guys that can really defend in the half court."

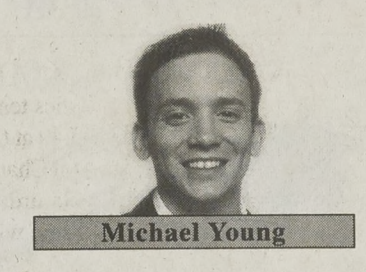
Although the schedule for next season has not been released, the Hornets will open their season on the road against the University of Michigan and will also face the University Minnesota on the road.



One of Hornet coach Jerome Jenkins' offseason tasks will be looking for someone to fill the shoes of senior Joel Jones. Jones finished second on the Hornets in scoring and earned Big Sky Conference Honorable Mention honors.

DAVID MARTIN OLSON/STATE HORNET

Sweatin' the small stuff



Michael Young

It's the little things that drive people insane. Sports are no different.

Sometimes the imperfections of a sport make me want to throw my television out the window or take my ball and go home.

Take basketball for instance. I love watching fast break play, well executed half court offense and even tough, physical defense. The ally-oop pass. The backdoor cut. The hard foul to not give up the easy lay in.

All these things make basketball great.

But I hate when teams just don't know when to throw in the towel. When there are only 30 seconds left and your down by 13 points, do not foul!

The last 30 seconds of a game can take up to 30 minutes in real time. Just give it up already. It's like a terminally ill patient holding on to life just to prolong the pain.

Pull the plug!

When I'm playing basketball, I just hate the guy who thinks he is so much better than everyone else and shoots the ball each time he touches it. This guy is like a black hole – whatever goes in never comes back out. There are a few other guys on your team buddy, and we want to have a little fun too.

After all, this isn't the NBA finals and you're not Michael Jordan.

In football, what's up with the prevent defense? Why don't they just call it the choking defense, or the "we don't want to win defense?"

When it comes to the pigskin, John Madden annoys me to no end. He is the master of the obvious – "Here's a guy that when he runs, he goes faster," or "here's a guy that when he eats a lot, he has to take a big dump afterwards." Hurry up and retire Johnny.

I also get annoyed with the big deal made of celebrations in the NFL or the "no fun league."

But in a non-sports related topic …

Nothing annoys me more than those people who walk around campus with those stupid rolling backpacks.

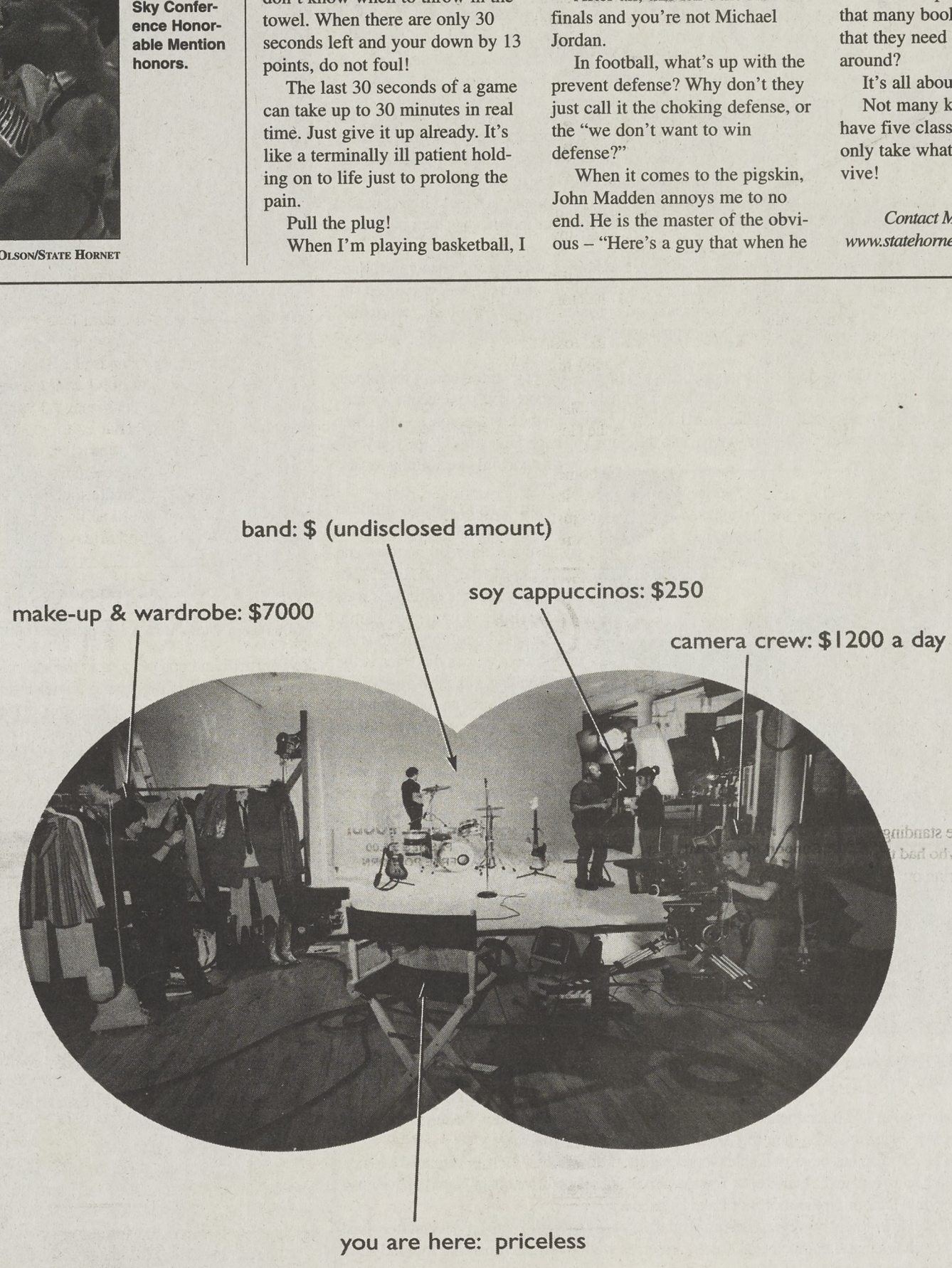
Are we at the airport or something? What time does your flight leave and which terminal are you boarding from?

Do these people really carry that many books in those suitcases that they need wheels to lug them around?

It's all about planning, people.

Not many kids at this school have five classes in one day so only take what you need to survive!

Contact Michael Young at www.statehornetsports@hotmail.com



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This Contest is subject to all applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations. Void where prohibited. **How to Participate:** 1) Visit www.mastercard.com and click on the MasterCard® Priceless Experience™ '04 icon between 12:00:01PM Central Time ("CT") on 2/8/04 and 8:59:59AM CT on 4/15/04 ("Promotion Period"); 2) To access the application form, click on the "Apply Now" button; 3) Submit an essay of no more than (250) words answering the following question: *If you were to plan your ideal career in the music business, what would it be and why?* The entry must be your original creation, in English and cannot have been previously published or submitted in any prior competition. Modification of an existing work does not qualify as original; 4) Fully complete the online entry; and 5) Click the "Submit" button. **Limit one entry per person and per email address for the duration of the Promotion Period. Additional entries received from such person and/or email address thereafter will be void.** Your submission of an entry constitutes your consent to participate in this Contest and your consent for Sponsor to obtain, use, and transfer your name, address and other information for the purpose of administering this Contest. Sponsor is not responsible for lost, incomplete, late, stolen, or misdirected entries or submissions; theft, destruction or unauthorized access to, or alteration of, entries; failures or malfunctions of phones, phonelines or telephone systems; interrupted or unavailable network, server or other connections; any error, omission, interruption, defect or delay in any transmission or communication; traffic congestion on the Internet or for any technical problem, including but not limited to any injury or damage to entrant's or any other person's computer related to or resulting from participation in this Contest; errors in these Official Rules, in any Contest-related advertisements or other materials; the selection or announcement of winners or the awarding of prizes; the cancellation, suspension or modification of online distance-learning seminars, or other problems or errors of any kind whether mechanical, human, electronic or otherwise. Sponsor reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to void any and all entries of an entrant who Sponsor believes has attempted to tamper with or impair the administration, security, fairness, or proper play of this Contest. The use of automated entry devices is prohibited. All entries will become the property of Sponsor and will not be returned. Neither Sponsor, nor anyone acting on its behalf, will enter into any communications with any entrant regarding any aspect of this Contest other than to notify potential winners. **Judging:** Winner selection for this Contest will occur in two phases. Semifinalist Selection: A total of (48) Semifinalists will be selected in accordance with the following Entry Periods, each Entry Period beginning at 12:00:01PM CT and ending at 8:59:59AM CT respectively: (16) Entry Period #1 Semifinalists: 2/8/04-3/1/04; (16) Entry Period #2 Semifinalists: 3/2/04-3/23/04 and (16) Entry Period #3 Semifinalists: 3/24/04-4/15/04. Entries received during one Entry Period will not carry forward to subsequent Entry Periods. Entries will be judged by an independent panel of judges ("judges") supervised by PST (an independent judging organization whose decisions will be final and binding in all matters relating to this Contest) based on the following criteria: 1) Originality: 0-40 points; 2) Creativity/Written Expression: 0-30 points; and 3) Relevance to Theme: 0-30 points. In the event of a tie, the entrant with the highest score in Originality will be declared the potential Semifinalist. If a tie still exists, from among the remaining pool of tied entrants, the entrant with the highest score in Creativity/Written Expression will be declared the potential Semifinalist, and so forth. Tiebreakers will continue backwards in this manner until the tie among the remaining tied entrants is broken. Semifinalists will be notified by telephone and/or mail on or about 5/10/04. If any Semifinalist notification letter is returned as undeliverable, a runner-up may be selected. Each Semifinalist will be required to submit the following materials to a specified address within (4) days of issuance of notification: 1) Executed Affidavit of Eligibility, Liability Release and (where legal) Publicity Release; 2) Current college/university transcript (showing that he/she is in good academic standing as defined by his/her respective college/university at time of notification); 3) A video of no more than (2) minutes in length featuring Semifinalist (no third parties, footage and/or music from any other source) addressing the following question: *Tell us about your favorite music video, what you like best about it and why?* The video must be: a) On a 1/2 inch VHS-formatted videotape; b) Queued to starting point; c) Neatly labeled with the entrant's complete name; and d) In English and cannot have been previously screened or publicly viewed. Entrant is responsible for properly protecting videotape for mailing. Noncompliance with any of the foregoing may result in disqualification and awarding of prize to the runner-up. Finalist Selection: A total of (16) Finalists will be selected from the (48) Semifinalist video entries submitted. Video entries will be judged based on the following criteria: 1) Presence On-Screen: 0–40 points; 2) Creative Execution: 0–30 points; and 3) Originality: 0–30 points. In the event of a tie, the entrant with the highest score in Presence On-Screen will be declared the potential Finalist. If a tie still exists, from among the remaining pool of tied entrants, the entrant with the highest score in Creative Execution will be declared the potential Finalist, and so forth. Tiebreakers will continue backwards in this manner until the tie among the remaining tied entrants is broken. Finalists will be selected by judges on or about 5/24/04 and will be notified by telephone and/or mail. If any Finalist notification letter is returned as undeliverable, the runner-up may be selected. The likelihood of winning a prize will depend on the quality of each entrant's submission as compared to the quality of all other entrants' submissions as judged in accordance with the aforementioned criteria. **Prizes:** (48) Semifinalist Prizes: $100 MasterCard Gift Card (Approximate Retail Value "ARV"=$100). (16) Finalist Prizes: Opportunity to attend the MasterCard® Priceless Experience™ '04 Music Internship ("internship") between 6/15/04 and 7/15/04 consisting of (but not limited to) participation in a four week internship in Los Angeles, California with access to select Music & Entertainment industry experts designated by Sponsor, specialized curricula, and the chance to assist in the production of a music video developed for an artist/group (managed by Universal Music Group) to be designated solely by Sponsor. Internship will include round-trip coach air transportation from major airport nearest to winner's residence in the U.S., select ground transportation, double-occupancy accommodations at a location to be determined by Sponsor, and a total of $1,000 spending money awarded in the form of a MasterCard Gift Card (ARV=$6,000) Limit one prize per person, family, or household. Total ARV of all prizes=$100,000. Prize details not specifically set forth herein are at Sponsor's sole discretion. Exact dates of internship subject to change at Sponsor's sole discretion. Internship attendance is mandatory and Finalists must comply with all MasterCard rules and regulations relating to their participation in the internship. Sponsor may, in its sole discretion, impose disciplinary sanctions on Finalists, ranging from a warning to expulsion to referral for state or federal prosecution, for violation of federal, state or local laws, and internship codes of conduct. Content of internship to be determined solely by Sponsor and internship is not for credit. Travel restrictions may apply and travel must take place on dates specified by Sponsor or prize will be forfeited and may be awarded to a runner-up. Artist(s)/group(s) and/or other organization(s) or personality(s) featured in MasterCard® Priceless Experience™ '04 Contest promotional advertising are subject to availability. If any named artist(s)/group(s) and/or other organization(s) or personality(s) is unavailable to participate in the capacity specified for any reason, an entity/individual of similar stature as determined by Sponsor will participate in lieu of the applicable named entity and/or individual. **Miscellaneous:** No transfer, assignment, cash redemption, or substitution of prizes (or portion thereof) except by Sponsor due to prize unavailability, and then for a prize (or applicable portion thereof) of equal or greater value. Federal, state and local taxes and all other costs and expenses not specified herein are winners' sole responsibility. By participating, entrants agree to be bound by these Official Rules and 1) Attest that their essay and/or video ("entry") is an original creation that has not been previously published or submitted in any other competitions; and 2) Agree that Released Parties and their designees and assigns: a) shall own the entry (and all material embodied therein) and shall have the perpetual, worldwide right to edit, publish, exploit and use the entry (or any portion thereof) in any way and in any media for advertising and/or trade purposes and/or for any other purpose in any media or format now or hereafter known without further compensation, permission or notification from/to entrant or any third party; b) shall have the right and permission (unless prohibited by law) to use entrant's name, voice, city/state of residence, photograph and/or other likeness for advertising and/or trade purposes and/or for the purpose of displaying their name as a winner and/or for any other purpose in any media or format now or hereafter known without further compensation, permission or notification; c) use of entry shall not violate the right of any third parties and shall not violate any applicable federal, state or local laws or ordinances, d) shall have the right, in their sole discretion, to disqualify any entries that they deem to be obscene or otherwise not in good taste; e) shall have no liability and entrant will defend, indemnify and hold harmless Sponsor and the Released Parties from and against any liability, loss, injury or damage of any kind (including attorney's fees) to any person or entity including, without limitation, personal injury, death or damage to personal or real property, due in whole or in part, directly or indirectly, by reason of the acceptance, possession, use or misuse of a prize or participation in this Contest and any travel related thereto including, but not limited to, any claim that entrant's submission infringes or violates the rights of any person or entity. Sponsor reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to modify, terminate or suspend this Contest should virus, bugs, non-authorized human intervention or other causes beyond the reasonable control of Sponsor, including but not limited to war, strikes, and/or acts of God, corrupt or impair the administration, security, fairness or proper play of this Contest and, if the Contest is terminated or suspended, at its discretion award prizes in a judging from among all non-suspect entries received prior to event requiring such modification, termination or suspension. **Winners List:** For the winners' names (available after 6/15/04), send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to be received by 6/1/04 to: MasterCard® Priceless Experience™ '04 Winners, P.O. Box 13106, Bridgeport, CT 06673-3106. ©2004 MasterCard International Incorporated. 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FEATURES

THE STATE HORNET

California State University, Sacramento | March 24 | Issue 9

The hills are alive in the *Napa Valley*

S.T. VANAIRSDALE
State Hornet

The first things you notice are the grapes. They're everywhere – the hillsides, the valley floor and etched into the concrete walls that line Highway 29. They symbolize the essence of the Napa Valley, and their cultivation results in some of the best wines found anywhere in the world.

People travel from around the globe to visit Napa and sample its wine culture, but a lot of Northern Californians don't know about the resource they have in their own backyard.

And despite the preponderance of high-end homes, vehicles and restaurants, Napa can also be a remarkably inexpensive – and beautiful – place for budget-minded students to visit for a day. Whether or not you consider yourself a die-hard "oenophile" (wine lover), the region has dining, shopping and sightseeing opportunities for students on even the most fixed income.

Part of the valley's immediate appeal is its proximity – about 65 miles east of Sacramento, and only a short trip off of Interstate 80 from Fairfield. The short drive is perfect for a warm, early spring day, especially with the green hills still grassy from the rainy season. As you climb out of the Sacramento Valley and weave into the Napa Valley on Highway 29, the vineyards begin sprawling beautifully toward the horizon.



S.T. VAN AIRSDALE/STATE HORNET

Customers eating lunch on the patio at the Napa General Store that over looks the Napa River.

After a trip through modern Napa, congested with strip malls and gas stations, the road narrows and winds close to the Napa River. Take one of any number of bridges west into historic downtown Napa.

The first, most conspicuous establishment across the river is the Hatt Building, which was converted two years ago to an inn, restaurant and general store with wine tasting and gourmet foods. At the Napa General Store, you can stop and pick up a couple of deli sandwiches for picnicking in the valley. A pair of large sandwiches can be bought for $15, and two half-sandwiches are less than $10.

You can also pick up beer, wine or soda at the Hatt Building and have lunch on a patio overlooking the river. Store owner Jill Brandt says that most visitors to Napa are surprised to discover a river running through the city, and that people in Napa only recently began taking advantage of the riverfront setting.

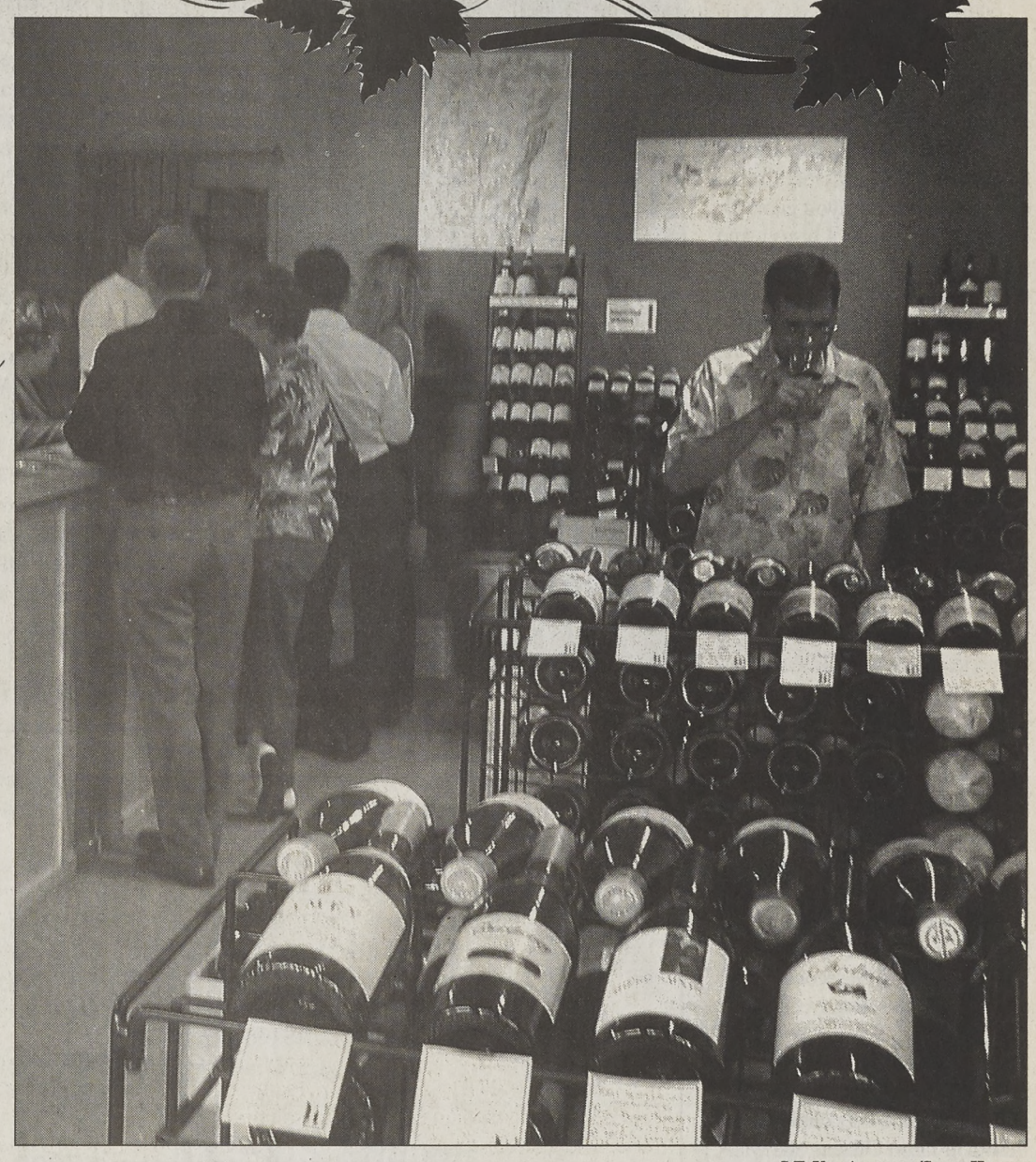
"People always use the (Sacramento) river up in Old Sacramento," Brandt says. "But it's amazing that it's taken 25 years for people in Napa to get on their feet after the valley was developed."

The city also has other riverside picnicking spots downtown, such as Veterans' Memorial Park and Third and Main streets. You can also make a short drive out of Napa to have lunch in Skyline Park or on the shores of Lake Hennessey.

Once downtown, however, parking is relatively easy to find. There are several free parking structures that flank the Napa Town Center, as well as scattered parking lots and street parking as well.

If picnics aren't your thing, you might stop for lunch at the excellent Pizza Azzurro, where a couple can fill up on salad and pizza for little more than $20. The restaurant also sells beer and has a full selection of – what else? – Napa valley wines.

For the best Mexican food in the area, many locals drive 15 miles north of Napa to Rutherford's La Luna Market. At the back of the market is a taqueria where you'll spend no more than $6.29 on lunch, and whose legendary burritos cost between $4.99 and $5.99.



S.T. VAN AIRSDALE/STATE HORNET

Back Room Wines offers five different tastings for $10.

Napa is loaded with an eclectic mix of inexpensive shops and stores, as well. The Beaded Nomad specializes in African and Asian beads and jewelry, offering thousands of bead styles for the do-it-yourself jeweler in you. Pleasures Unlimited on Second Street sells an unusual selection of adult-oriented novelties like "Total Bitch" hand cream and "Sparkling Mullet" car and body wash.

At Betty's Girl Boutique, owner Kim Northrop sells vintage women's clothing and accessories for far less than you would pay to dress at a shopping mall. She says she frequents regional estate sales to find the best-quality merchandise, and that her customers travel from all over the state to browse her selection of apparel, shoes and purses.

"I have a lot of students who get their checks and want to treat themselves to something for under $20," Northrop said.

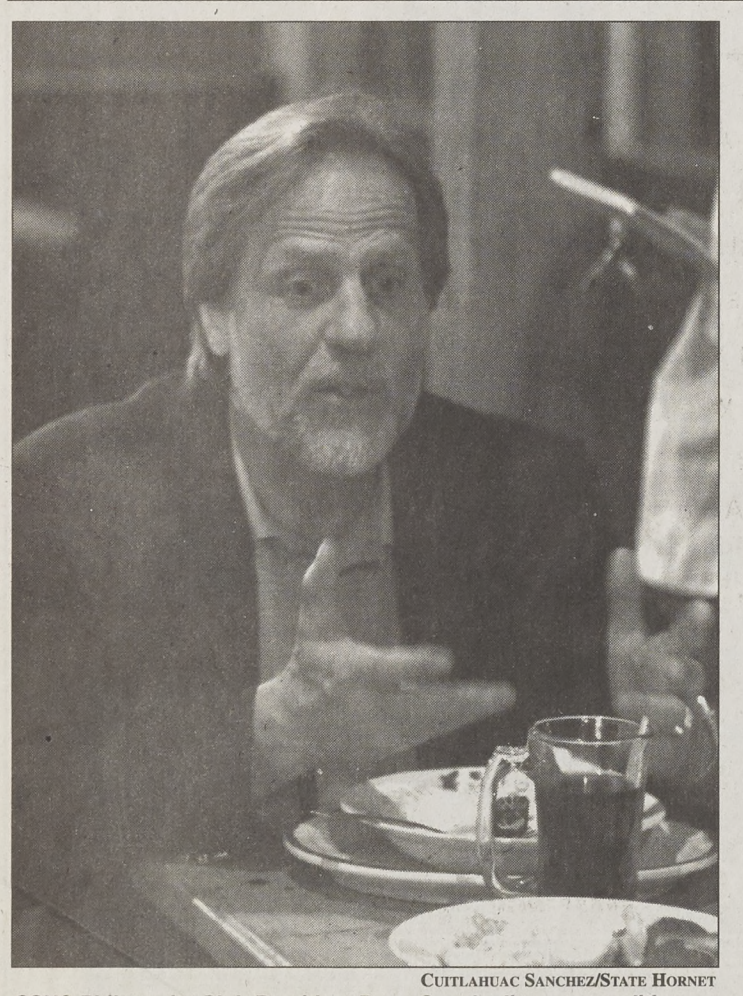
Of course, it's impossible to forget those miles of vineyards, and their fruit that makes Napa tick in the first place. Students over 21 who do enjoy an occasional glass of wine (and who bring along a designated driver) can conceivably attend tastings around the area all day for $10 to $20.

Starting in April, you can purchase a $15 passport that allows you to taste wines at ten different rooms around downtown Napa. Back Room Wines offers periodic "blow outs" during which visitors can partake of four or five regional wines for $10 per person, while Napa Wine Merchant often supplies passes for free winery tastings when you sample wines in the tasting room. If you can identify who said the "quote of the day" on the sign outside the door, the entire tasting is free of charge.

Another way to spend the day is to make the drive north on Highway 29, out of Napa and into the towns of Yountville, Rutherford and St. Helena. You can cut east through Calistoga and travel back down the other side of the valley, stopping in at any of the dozens of wineries that line the Silverado Trail.

"The drive is so magnificent," says Napa Wine Merchant owner Thrace Bromberger, who's also the namesake of a wine she samples in her tasting room. "It's why all of us moved here."

And while you may not be in a position to relocate to the Napa Valley anytime soon, you're always in a position to make a relaxing – and inexpensive – day enjoying what it has to offer.



CUITLAHUAC SANCHEZ/STATE HORNET

CSUS Philosophy Club President Doug Sapola discusses politics over coffee at the Baghdad Cafe.

Talking shop with caffeine

DANIEL LOPEZ
State Hornet

It seems politics is a dish best served with cream and sugar; at least it is for Sacramento State students.

Ads have been posted throughout the university inviting people to join in on the lively conversations that take place at the Baghdad Café, nestled just off the pedestrian bridge near Sac State.

The monthly meetings, which are titled "Coffee and Politics," began last semester.

"We wanted a place where people could just talk," said John Kincaid, a senior at Sac State. Kincaid said that he has been active in politics for many years and has been attending "Coffee and Politics" on a regular basis.

The crowd at the café mainly consists of students from Campus Peace Action, a political activist group at Sac State, which pushes a liberal agenda. However, those in attendance said that the idea behind "Coffee and Politics," is to include everyone regardless of political affiliation.

"A lot of people drop by after their classes," said Heather Woodford, a Sac State senior and president of Campus Peace Action.

Meeting regulars said that the first "Coffee and Politics" event attracted about 30 students, but attendance varies. At the café, students engage in a range of issues dealing with both national and local concerns.

Common topics include the budget crisis facing California and the situation in Iraq. Fliers are also spread across various tables at the event, helping to keep students informed about upcoming political activities.

Not everyone that visits "Coffee and Politics" is a political expert or a government major. Doug Sapola, a student at Sac State and president of the Philosophy Club, added to the political conversation of the night with a philosophical perspective.

"I'm trying to get more involved in politics," Sapola said.

Many college-aged citizens throughout the country have a reputation for being uninterested in politics. According to a recent survey completed by the U.S. Census Bureau, citizens between the ages of 18-24 are less likely to vote compared to all eligible age groups.

"Many (people between the ages of) 18-24 are in a transitional stage where things are less defined," said Sac State professor Ken Debow, who instructs students in government. "Many who don't vote now will later, when they have a clearer self-definition of their stakes in the political game."

Kincaid believes that students are becoming more politically aware of problems that matter to them. He cites issues like fee increases as subjects that resonate with students.

"Students can't avoid (politics) cause it's coming right to their front door," Kincaid said.

Students at "Coffee and Politics" talked about the proposed fee increases among other issues. For Sac State senior Lesley McCann, the event offers an opportunity to address problems she would normally only read about.

"Every person has their own special issue that they're concerned about," McCann said.

Those at the cafe hope that forums like "Coffee and Politics" will help encourage greater political interest among Sac State students.

The group plans to meet again at the same location at 7 p.m. on Monday, April 20.

REVIEWS

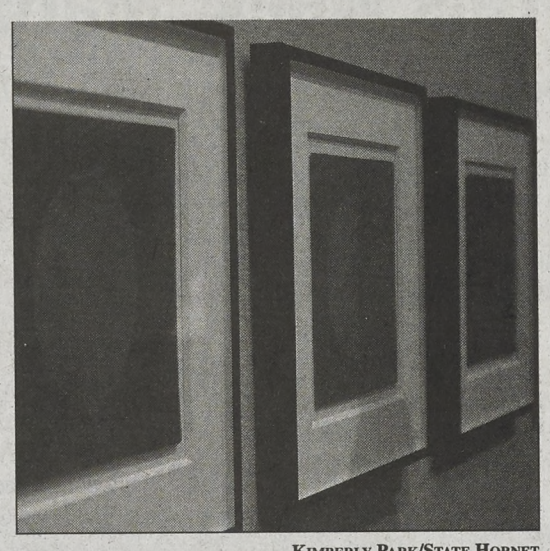
Copper and paper craftiness in union show

SAMANTHA HINRICHS
State Hornet

Katherine Venturelli's show "Universal Language" opening tonight at the University Union Gallery is one of sublime subtlety. A recipient of the R. Bell Printmaking fellowship, Venturelli proves her skill. "Universal Language" uses the mediums of paper and copper to explore symbolic messages.

"We communicate on personal, cultural and spiritual levels with messages which manifest as symbols," Venturelli writes in her statement. "My intent is to 'look' at the meanings of these varied communications."

"Symbol I" is such a piece. A triangle sits within a reddish box, superimposed upon scribbled notations of a mathematician. "Symbol I" is to contemplate the symbol of the triangle, drawing up themes of the trinity, and relations between heaven, hearth and mankind. This piece is part of a triptych, with "Symbol II" and "Symbol III" featuring the images of a spiral and square. Venturelli's interpretation of a spiral symbol is of the movement in life, the spiral of life and death and the ultimate return to the center. In contrast, the square represents earth, static energy and integrity.



KIMBERLY PARK/STATE HORNET
The "Universal Language" show will be on display in the University Union Gallery until April 23.

Katherine Venturelli "Universal Language"	★★★
When: Mon.-Fri.: 10:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Wed. and Thurs.: 5-8 p.m. Where: University Union Gallery	

"Universal Language" features the lunar cycle as another symbolic language. "Luna #18," "Luna #8" and "Luna #11" are monotypes; also shown are a beautifully-rendered set of etchings with the same theme.

Perhaps the centerpiece of the show is the handmade books that cross sculptural one-dimensional boundaries. However, don't expect to be immediately impressed with the show, for the pieces are quiet and their beauty rests on their high level of craft.

THEATRE DEPARTMENT

To be or not to be...in Hamlet

ANGIE BLAIR
State Hornet

The Sacramento State Alumni Theatre Project is looking for students, alumni and community members who are interested in acting out a modern rendition of the classic play Hamlet.

The production will be directed by theater alum Ed Trafton. In addition to directing, Trafton has also edited and modernized the script.

"The director is looking for a very streamline, modern and sexy Hamlet," said producer and theater alum Gregg Kilski.

Auditions will be held at 7 p.m. on March 30 in the university theatre. The auditions are non-traditional – students, alumni and community members are welcome.

Actors do not need to come with a prepared monologue and no prior acting experience is necessary. Auditions will consist of a reading from the script and call-backs will be made the following day if necessary. The part of Hamlet has already been cast. All other parts are still open.

Hamlet is scheduled to open July 9, and will run through Aug. 8 in the Playwrights' Theatre, Shasta Hall. For more information call (916)278-3330.

Ending forgetful in 'Spotless Mind'

MEGAN CASEY
State Hornet

Sometimes a buzz surrounds a movie for the right reasons: the actors are sharp, the cinematography is artful, the writing is witty, the scenery is moving. Sometimes, however, those things cannot save even the most promising of films. Such is the case for Michael Gondry's newest movie, "Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind," starring Kate Winslet and Jim Carrey.

"Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind"	★★★

The concept is intriguing: two lovers, unhappy with their relationship, opt to undergo a procedure that erases selected memories in their minds – memories they have of each other. It is an overnight process, during which time the technicians of the procedure watch over the patient as he sleeps, erasing memories as they pop up on their brain radar. Carrey's character, Joel Barish, realizes during the procedure that he does not, in fact, want his memories of Winslet's character, Clementine, removed.

Almost the entirety of the movie is inside Joel's head, during the evening of erasing. Unlike most films that rely on a cohesive story to develop characters, "Sunshine" uses compiled snapshots to do so. Joel's memories glide by on screen, allowing the audience to make their own interpretations as to the motivations of each character.

Possibilities for thematic greatness abound. First and foremost, the film can be a tribute to the old adage, "'Tis better to have loved and lost than to have never have loved at all." Even though Joel's memories are sometimes painful, he would prefer to retain the knowledge that he felt as happy as Clementine originally made him. The film is wrought with scenes from their relationship – moments that are touching both visually and emotionally.

The practice of erasing someone's mind whenever he or she feels distress from certain memories is morally questionable. Who are we to know what purpose memories serve, and, more importantly, who are we to change that process? Joel's rejection of the procedure once it is underway also hints at themes of man struggling against modernity, trying to find himself amid a maze of seemingly random occurrences in life. Joel is originally drawn to Clementine because she is modern and refreshing – she dyes her hair wild colors, lives impulsively, thinks romantically. This very modernity eventually turns into the problem he has with her.

These are things you think of after the movie, if you bother to think back on it at all. The truth is, the film is mostly driven by its style, which consists of fast-paced editing and picturesque cinematography. The lighting and angles create a definite mood, as does the sometimes overdone acting by Carrey.

Gondry's style in filmmaking is obviously affected by his previous experience – he's made music videos for the likes of Chemical Brothers and Bjork. He is good at creating a feeling through visuals, but the film fails to come together as anything truly powerful. The film relies too heavily on showing memories to develop characters. Despite the emotion of the actors, the audience gets no real sense of who they are. More importantly, there is nothing that creates sympathy for the couple. Their relationship seems to have started as an idyll, to have ended bitterly – typical boring love stuff.

Actually, even this could have been overcome – this could have been just a nice, shallow art flick. Unfortunately, the novelty of the concept wears off. In fact, the memory-driven plot eventually goes too far. The result is jarring.The momentum is lost. It doesn't even matter that the story ends with a complete cop-out.

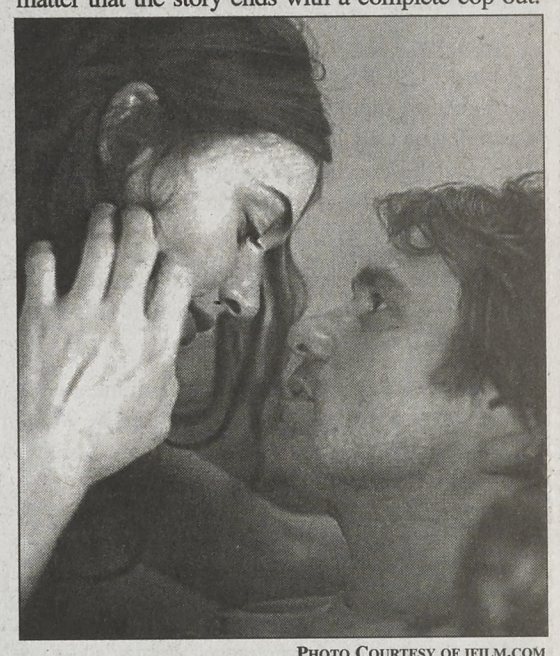
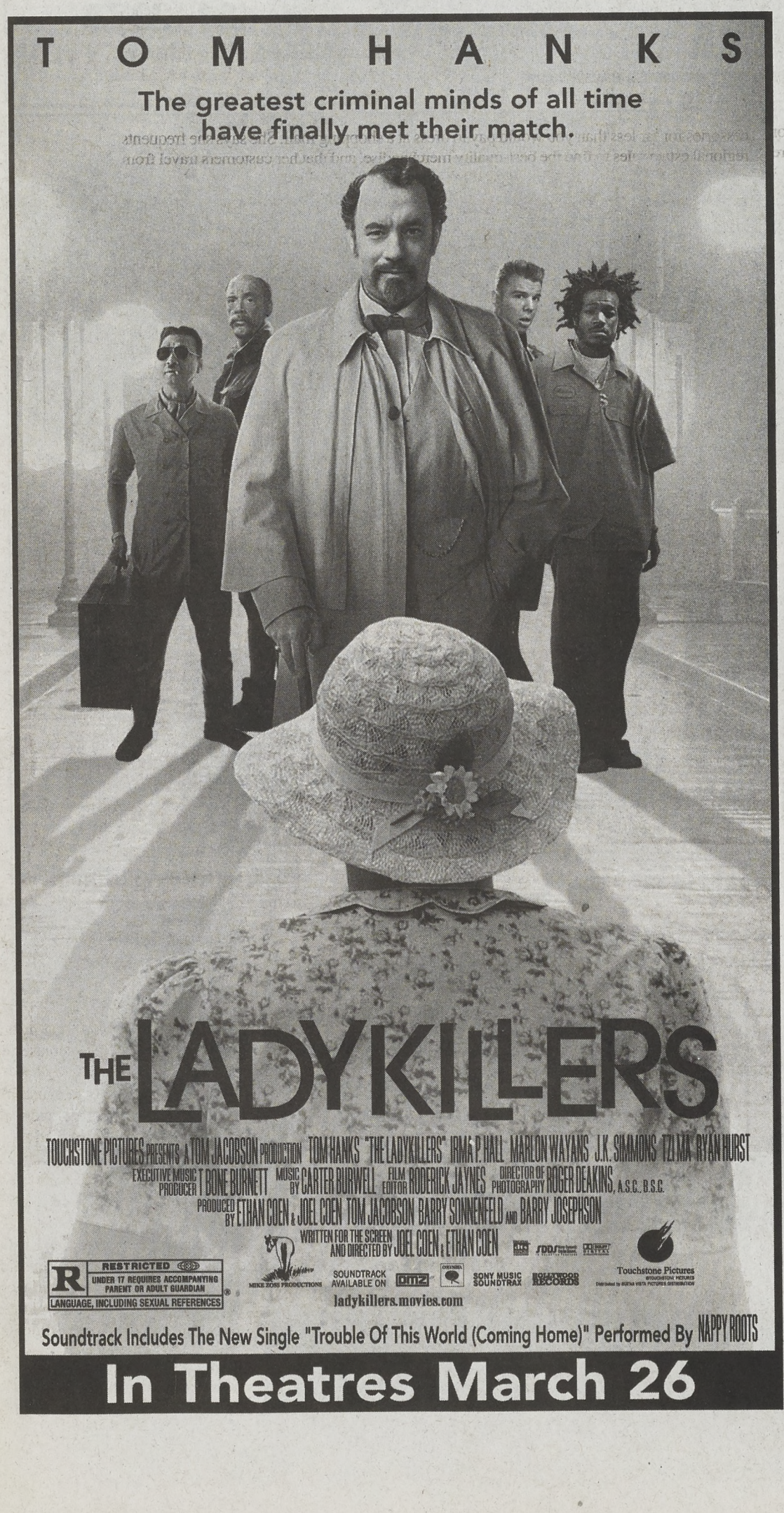


PHOTO COURTESY OF IFILM.COM
Kate Winslet and Jim Carrey try to save their relationship by having their bad memories erased.



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CROSS INTO THE BLUE

HORNET Happenings

This Week: March 24 - March 30

Wednesday, March 24

▸ Music: Ross Hammond Trio, jazz. Noon. University Union Redwood Room. (916) 278-6997.

▸ Lecture: "The Elephant in the Living Room: How the Columbine Massacre Could Have Been Prevented," professor emeritus Elliot Aronson, UC Santa Cruz. 3 p.m. Amador Hall 150. (916) 278-6254.

Thursday, March 25

▸ Distinguished Service Awards Dinner, honors recipients of the alumni award. 7:30 p.m. Alumni Center.

Friday, March 26

▸ Faculty Workshop: "Teaching and Scholarship." Noon. University Library 4026. (916) 278-5945.

▸ Forum: Renaissance Society, "The Historical Jesus" Sacramento State professor emeritus Stephen Harris. 3 p.m. University Union Redwood Room. (916) 278-7834.

▸ Lecture: "The Olympic Games: The Greek Connection, 776 BC - 2004 AD," Sir Michael Llewellyn-Smith, former British ambassador to France and Greece, Hellenic Speaker Series. 6:30 p.m. University Union Ballroom. (916) 278-6997. Reception 5 p.m.

Monday, March 29

▸ Music: CSUS Symphonic Wind Ensemble, works by Schwantner, Tchaikovsky, Grantham and Whitacre, identical program to ensemble's upcoming concert at Carnegie Hall April 13, 7:30 p.m. Music Recital Hall in Capistrano Hall. $8 general/$5 students and seniors. Tickets at CSUS Ticket Office at (916) 278-4323 or Tickets.com.

Tuesday, March 30

▸ Theater: Open auditions for Hamlet, a production of the Alumni Theatre Project, selected roles available. Hamlet has been cast. 7 p.m. University Theatre. (916) 278-3330.

▸ Action with Compassion, honors community members who have worked to end sexual violence, sponsored by Women Escaping a Violent Environment and CSUS Women's Resource Center. 7 - 9 p.m. University Union Ballroom. (916) 278-7388.

WOMEN'S HSTORY MONTH

Wednesday, March 24

▸ Artists in Residency Performances, film on contemporary feminist art by Tatiana Reinoza, presentation based on work of Augusto Boal and movements for social change, Women's History Month, 7 p.m., University Union Redwood Room. (916) 278-7388.

Thursday, March 25

▸ Lecture, Dolores Huerta, labor rights activist, Women's History Month, 7:30 p.m., University Union Ballroom. (916) 278-6997.

Monday, March 29

▸ Panel discussion, "Sexual Harassment: Exploring Your Rights," Women's History Month, noon, University Union Foothill Suite. (916) 278-7388.

Tuesday, March 30

▸ Panel discussion, "Third Wave Feminism," contrasting current feminist movement with "traditional" feminism of the '60s and '70s, Women's History Month, 10:30 a.m., University Union Orchard Suites I and II. (916) 278-7388.

FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS

Wednesday, March 24

▸ Exhibit: "April Greiman: Graphic Design Work." Design Gallery, Mariposa 5000, call (916) 278-3962 for gallery hours. Continues to April 2.

▸ Exhibit: Works by studio art graduate student Mike Rowden. Noon - 4:30 p.m., Mon. - Fri., Else Gallery. (916) 278-6166. Continues to April 2.

▸ Exhibit: Works by Linda Day and Marie Thibeault, Long Beach State professors. Witt Gallery, call (916) 278-6166 for gallery hours.

▸ Lecture: Artists Linda Day and Marie Thibeault, Long Beach State professors. 2 p.m. Mariposa Hall 1001. (916) 278-6166. Reception 4 - 6 p.m. Kadema Hall breezeway.

Thursday, March 25

▸ Music: CSUS Jazz Ensemble with guest saxophonist Bob Mintzer. 8 p.m. Music Recital Hall in Capistrano Hall. $10 general/ $8 students and seniors. Tickets at CSUS Ticket Office at (916) 278-4323 or Tickets.com.

▸ Lecture: Mixed media and installation artist Mildred Howard, Women Make Art Lecture Series. 6 p.m. University Union Redwood Room. (916) 278-6997.

▸ Music: Liberace Woodwind Quintet. 4 p.m. Capistrano Hall 151. (916) 278-5155.

Thursday, March 25 - Saturday, March 27

▸ Dance: Between The Lines, Dale Scholl Dance/Art. 8 p.m., Dancespace, Solano Hall 1010. $18 general/$16 students and seniors/$15 Sac State students/$9 ages 12 and under. Tickets at CSUS Ticket Office at (916) 278-4323 or at Tickets.com.

Thursday, March 25 – Sunday, March 28

▸ Theater: Crazy for You, by Ken Ludwig, directed by Ed Brazo, Festival of the Arts, 8 p.m. Thursday - Saturday, 2 p.m. Sundays. Playwrights' Theatre, Shasta Hall. $18 general/$11 students and seniors. Tickets at CSUS Ticket Office at (916) 278-4323 or at Tickets.com.

Friday, March 26

▸ Exhibit: The Eyes Have It: An Exhibition of California Visionaries. 10 a.m.-5p.m., Tues. - Sat. Library Gallery. (916) 278-2368. Continues to June 4. Opening reception 5 - 8 p.m., March 26.

▸ Music: El Mundo. 8 p.m. Music Recital Hall in Capistrano Hall. $8 general/$5 students and seniors. Tickets at CSUS Ticket Office at (916) 278-4323 or Tickets.com.

Saturday, March 27

▸ Art History Symposium, "Vision-Re-Vision," keynote speaker CSU San Francisco professor Whitney Chadwick, other visiting and Sac State faculty speakers. 1 - 5 p.m. Mendocino Hall 1003. (916) 278-6166.

▸ Lecture: Filmmaker Trinh Minh-ha, includes screening of her film Night Passage. 7 p.m. University Union Hinde Auditorium. (916) 278-6997. Reception follows.

Monday, March 29

▸ Poetry: Olga Broumas, poet in residence Brandeis University. 7 p.m. University Union Hinde Auditorium. (916) 278-6997.

Next week in features...

It's time for Spring Break! Students going to frolic in the sun and abroad get travel and safety tips from the State Hornet.

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Students will go 'mad' for songs and gags in 'Crazy For You'

JOSH CADJI
State Hornet

Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day; teach a man to fish and you feed him for a lifetime. Robert Frost said it best, and possibly could have applied it to Kyle Richlin, the lead of the musical, playing at Sacramento State, "Crazy For You."

You give Richlin a tape of Mikhail Baryshnikov's finest two-steps and Gene Kelly's "Singin' in the Rain" and you entertain him for a night; you give him a pair of tap shoes and a microphone and you give the world a bright star about to shine.

Easily the most talented actor I've ever seen live, Richlin dishes out lines that you can watch over and over and still not understand how he does it so flawlessly. Every line is on, crystal clear with every word he says. Not a tap-step is missed and not a note is too high or low throughout his many solos. Richlin was born to act, sing and do it all. He was made for the stage and never disappoints once, even though he faces the treacherous challenge of playing two characters throughout the entirety of the musical.

"Crazy for You" was written by playwright Ken Ludwig and was spun from the original musical "Girl Crazy," which featured some of the same tracks written by the brothers Gershwin that Ludwig later carried over to use in "Crazy For You." The musical, accompanied by an energized and jubilant pit-orchestra, directed and choreographed by Ed Brazo, is now playing in the University Theater, Shasta Hall.

"Crazy For You" is the play-lover's play, a light-hearted and humorous slice of life that ties in "I Love Lucy" – like goofs and gaffs, along with roundabout situational humor that has the crowd bouncing with laughter. The off-center production of the musical showcases the deception of your own reality and that love is so deceiving, blind and aware all at the same time. Yet Richlin's character, Bobby Child, proves that in the end, your heart will lead you to where you belong, that love and a passion for something honest and real will always prevail.

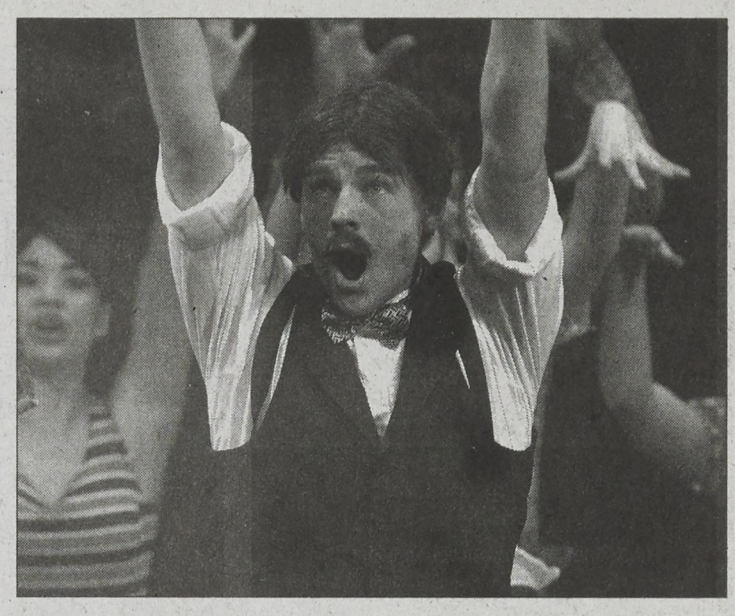
Though a feathery comedy, "Crazy For You" has the audience placing themselves in the shoes of both Bobby and Polly Baker, played by Tiffany Jensen. We want to be them for the time being; we want to say, "Hey Bobby, just tell her you love her" or "C'mon Polly, just give in!" Without the propensity of the characters trying to relate to us and hoping we root them on, "Crazy For You" would be as pedestrian as your local high school production of "Romeo and Juliet." The "tug-on-our-heart-strings-by-relating-to-us" aspect is what reels you in, but is unfortunately severed by the 10-minutes-too-long intermission during which you fall out of the groove you were once entrenched in.

Although Richlin shines and shines through his slick-haired, preppy easterner role, he is very well complemented, not completed, by Jensen, the independent cowgirl love he finds while trying to distance himself from his over-bearing, money-crazed mother and suffocating fiancé who lives in New York. Once in Dead Rock, Nev., an old-western cowboy town set in the heart of lack-luster, yet appropriate props and backdrops, Bobby tries to pose as a rich German fellow, Bela Zangler, played by T.J. Engstrom, in order to save the theater Polly loves. Bobby falls for Polly. Polly doesn't fall back. Bobby transforms into Zangler. Polly falls for Zangler. Bobby tries to convince Polly to fall for Bobby and not Zangler. This leads to the highlight of the musical, the meeting between the real Zangler and the poser Zangler. Both intoxicated at the time, they mirror each other for a while, a la Lucy Ricardo and Harpo Marx. The obvious ending in regards to the state of the theater and what happens between Bobby and Polly doesn't depreciate the value of the musical as a whole, but doesn't enhance it either.

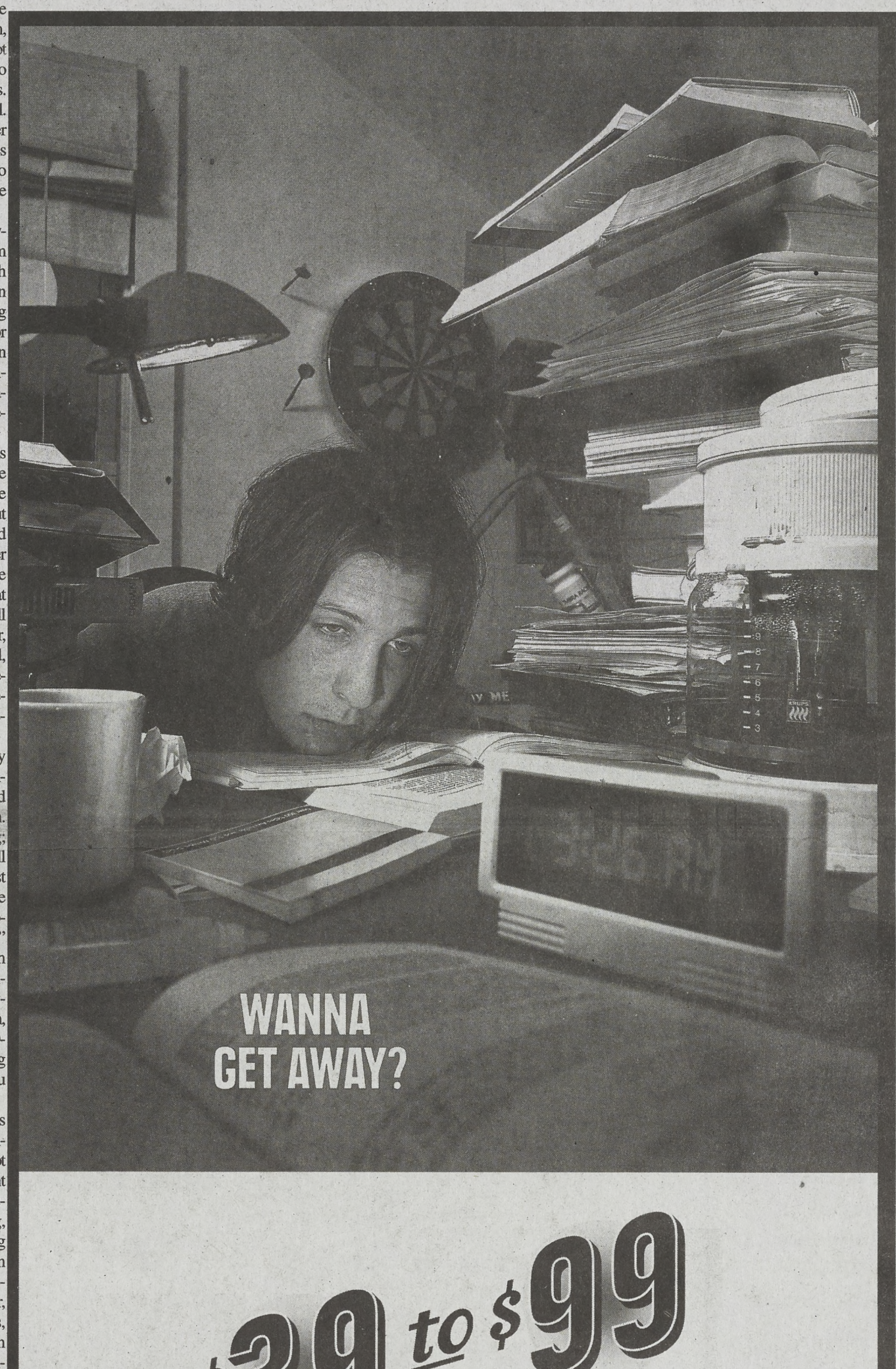
Though a little long at almost three hours, the experience one gets from a good play with an amazing lead actor is nothing to scoff at. Richlin turns in a phenomenal performance, a tri-fecta of acting, singing and dancing, with the witty humor and innocent honesty that no one will ever get sick of. "Crazy For You" is a bright and enjoyable musical with an even brighter star to showcase in Kyle Richlin.

"Crazy For You"	★★★

When: 8 p.m. Thursday - Saturday, 2 p.m. Sundays
Where: Playwrights' Theatre, Shasta Hall.
Tickets: $18 general/$11 students and seniors. Tickets at CSUS Ticket Office at (916) 278-4323 or at Tickets.com.



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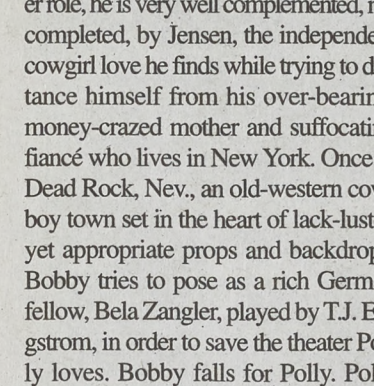
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